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Police See Pay Increases, As Borough Looks to State To Curb Future Hikes

The prospect of the Princeton Borough Council entering into a new, three-year salary agreement establishing pay rates for senior-level officers on the 34-member police has left Council members concerned about rising salaries and calling for legislative aid from the state.

A 5-1 vote on introducing an ordinance concerning salaries and compensation of police superior officers came just moments after Borough Hall signed off on an agreement between the town and the police union, Policemen's Benevolent Association, Local 130, Superior Officers' Association, regarding a collective negotiation agreement.

And while the salaries and compensation ordinance is still slated for a vote for final passage on January 22, Council members Roger Martindelt, Wendy Benchley, and David Goldfarb expressed considerable concern over the increases in salaries, which would top out at $127,678 a year for the Borough Police Department's top annual salary in 2009. The three appeared at a loss as to how to effectively combat the state-mandated increases.

Mr. Martindell cast the lone dissenting vote for both the salary and the PBA agreement measures, each retroactive to January 1, 2007.

"What the Legislature gives to police officers across the state of New Jersey adds up to many, many millions of dollars a year," Mr. Goldfarb said. "Yet nobody is willing to talk about what the Legislature does that keeps police salaries high.

"We're talking about our superior officers here who are starting well above $100,000 per year," Mr. Goldfarb said.

A public hearing is slated for the January 22 session, and in the event of the measure's likely adoption, a 3.75 percent increase, retroactive to 2007, would set an entry level superior police officer's yearly salary at $112,444, with $1,500 intervals in between each one-year pay bracket. As such, a fifth-year superior officer would receive $118,444, retroactive to 2007.

Another 3.75 percent increase would go into effect in 2008, with a 3.9 percent increase in 2009, with an entry-level superior officer making $121,210 per year, with a fifth-year superior officer making $127,678.

After five years, the ordinance outlines increases based on experience, with 2

Continued on Page 14

Senior Housing Vaults Major Hurdle

A petition with more than 1,900 signatures opposing further development along a northeastern tract of the Princeton Ridge was presented to Princeton Township Committee Monday night as the governing body examined, and eventually introduced, an ordinance that would open the area to a wider age demographic than had been previously allowed.

And while petitioners put forward several arguments, citing the area's environmental sensitivity, questioning the nature of age-designated housing, as well as expressing concerns over potential flooding due to increased development, Committee members maintained that the ordinance, which would amend code along a Bunn Drive parcel to allow for residents age 55 and up, down from the previous age-62 minimum, was an improvement to base zoning there for office and research purposes, and would help to satisfy a long-standing Township goal of building market-rate senior housing.

For housing advocates, the ordinance introduction is a tentative victory. For both the advocates and those in opposition, the vote represents just one hurdle in a three-stage zoning process. The ordinance will next be up for review this Thursday by the Regional Planning Board of Princeton, which will then vote to refer the zoning amendment back to the Township Committee for a final vote, slated for January 28.

"Market-rate senior housing is good public policy," Township Mayor Phyllis Marchand said at the conclusion of the three-hour hearing that filled Township Hall Monday night.

The ordinance introduced by Committee is effectively an update to an existing senior housing overlay zone that was first crafted in 2001. In August 2007, responding to concerns that an age-62 minimum would be too restrictive on prospective developers, the Township heard an appeal and were presented with a development concept from architect J. Robert Hillier, the contract purchaser of the Bunn Drive site. Mr. Hillier, a Town Topics shareholder, primarily recommended a reduction in age minimum to allow for 55-year-olds, and suggested building on only a portion of the 17-acre site.

The Hillier plan represented a departure from a previously approved development plan to build 140 residential units on the

Continued on Page 12

FIRE STRIKES UNIVERSITY HOUSING: A four-alarm fire broke out Thursday in a College Road apartment building owned by Princeton University. No cause has been determined, but the blaze displaced 34 people and pets, according to the Princeton Fire Department. Princeton University has made temporary arrangements for displaced residents living in the 13-unit complex that was built in 1922. Along with the Princeton Fire Department, fire companies from Plainsboro, South Brunswick, West Windsor, Rocky Hill, Montgomery, Hopewell, Lawrence, Hamilton, and Ewing assisted in fighting the blaze.

(Photo by E. J. Greenblat)

Planning Board Set To Review Nassau Inn Expansion Vision

After a month-long delay, representatives of the Nassau Inn are expected to present an expansion concept plan to the Regional Planning Board of Princeton this Thursday, taking on a project that was first floated nearly 10 years ago.

The concept, which is not a formal application, was scheduled for planning board review last month, but an attorney conflict delayed that hearing, putting off a sneak preview of the hotel's first major expansion in over 20 years. The plan is actually a revision of an approved 1998 plan that never came to fruition.

Preliminary plans outline the construction of a six-story addition along Hulfish Street, currently occupied by a plaza and a loading dock, with two retail stores, a new ballroom space above the street-level retail, and four guest room floors consisting of 40 new rooms that would tie into the hotel's existing wings.

The move is necessary, according to the hotel's architectural consultant,

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Evergreen Forum Gears Up For Spring 2008 Semester

The Evergreen Forum, the daytime study organization for adults, announced this week 14 new courses in the spring 2008 semester.

There is a registration fee of $50 for one course and $35 for additional courses. Registrations are now being accepted by mail or in person at the Princeton Senior Resource Center at 45 Stockton Street, at the rear of Princeton Borough Hall.

For more information, go to www.TheEvergreenForum.org, or call the Senior Resource Center at (609) 924-7108.

Topics In Brief
A Community Bulletin

The Princeton Community Democratic Organization will hold a potluck supper and annual meeting this Sunday, January 20, at 6 p.m. at the Suzanne Patterson Center located behind Princeton Borough Hall. The dinner will be open to the public with organizers asking all attendees to bring a main dish, appetizer, or dessert to serve eight people. The PCDO will provide the bread and beverages. To confirm attendance, contact Laurie Harmon at (609) 252-0264 or at lbharmon1@aol.com. The dinner will be followed by PCDO's annual meeting at 7 p.m. with the election of the executive board for 2008 by acclamation. That election will be followed by a presidential endorsement vote. Only PCDO members with dues paid as of January 6, 2008, will be eligible to vote. Votes will be cast after representatives of the presidential candidates have given four-minute statements supporting their choice. There is no proxy or absentee voting. For more information, go to www.princetondems.org.

Free tax assistance for seniors starts February 1 at The Princeton Senior Resource Center. The program is aimed toward low- and moderate-income older adults in the greater Princeton area who are filing uncomplicated personal returns. Trained volunteers from AARP will be available to prepare New Jersey State and Federal returns. Returns may be filed electronically. Tax assistance is available by appointment only at the following times and locations starting February 1: Fridays 9 a.m. to noon at the Suzanne Patterson Building, 45 Stockton Street, behind Borough Hall. Call PSRC at (609) 924-7108 for an appointment. Spruce Circle residents can make an appointment at their location for Mondays, February 11, March 10 or April 14, 12:30 to 4 p.m., by calling (609) 252-2362. Assistance at the Henry F. Pannell Learning Center will take place on Saturdays between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. on a first-come basis. Spanish-speaking volunteers will be present to assist taxpayers. Participants are required to bring copies of their 2006 Federal and New Jersey tax returns, as well as all necessary 2007 tax information, including W-2 and 1099 income forms, property tax bill, and receipts for itemized deductions such as medical bills and charitable contributions.

Princeton Public Library will host a talk on alternative energy sources at its National Issues Forum on Thursday, January 17, at 7 p.m. The alternative energy approaches of the forum, "The Energy Problem: Choices for an Uncertain Future," include the reduction of foreign energy dependence, finding alternatives to fossil fuels, and overall reduction in energy demand. The librarians who will moderate the forum have undergone training from National Issues Forums. More information on the NIF can be found at www.nifi.org. Registration, which is required for this event, can be done by calling (609) 924-9529, ext. 220.

Planned Parenthood Association of the Mercer Area will observe the 35th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision with a "honk and wave" event at Princeton Borough's Monument Park this Saturday, January 19, between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Organizers are encouraging drivers and pedestrians to take part in the event. Planned Parenthood will hold a second Mercer County event simultaneously at the organization's Hamilton Square Health Center on Route 33 in Hamilton, in the Golden Crest Corporate Center.

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Town Topics

MORE QUESTIONS: Students meet Nobel Prize-winning economist Eric S. Maskin after his talk on "How Should Presidents Be Elected?" at Princeton High School. (Photo by Ellen Gilbert)

Halloween Encounter With Nobelist Leads to Presentation at High School

Was it a dark and stormy night? Perhaps not, but it was still a memorable Halloween for Princeton High School (PHS) junior Kan ("Edward") Wang after he rang the doorbell, in trick-or-treat mode, at the Mercer Street home of Eric S. Maskin, the 2007 Nobel Prize winner for Economics.

TOPICS *Of the Town*

As a result of their friendly exchange that evening, and the efforts of PHS Economics teacher Lisa Bergman, Mr. Maskin, the Albert O. Hirschman Professor in the School of Social Science at the Institute for Advanced Study, gave a talk to juniors and seniors in the auditorium at PHS on Tuesday morning. In his introduction, Mr. Wang called Mr. Maskin a "down to earth man" who is an avid Red Sox fan, accomplished pianist, and enthusiastic tennis player. He noted that Mr. Maskin lives in the house where Albert Einstein lived, making him the third Nobel Prize winner to reside there. (The other was physicist Frank Wilczek.)

The serendipity of the Halloween meeting seemed to continue with the timely topic of the economist's talk: "How Should Presidents Be Elected?" Using the much-debated results of the 2000 Presidential election as a starting point, Dr. Maskin asked how it was possible for Mr. Bush to win without actually having won a majority of the vote in Florida. The answer, he explained, had to do with the "Nader effect": the presence of a third-party candidate who never had a chance to win, but who drew votes away from the other candidates — votes that would otherwise have probably gone to Mr. Gore.

Is there a better way to elect presidents? Yes, said Dr. Maskin, although neither of the two most commonly suggested alternatives — getting rid of the Electoral College or using a run-off system — would suffice. Getting rid of the Electoral College would require a constitutional amendment, which is unlikely to occur, and it doesn't address the problem of the "Nader effect." Using recent French elections as an example, Mr. Maskin went on to show that a run-off system also fails, since extremist candidates can still make it to the final round of voting, "disrupting the election for more seri-

ous candidates." Nor does allowing voters to rank candidates mitigate against the undesirable effect of third-party candidates.

Ultimately, said Mr. Maskin, there is no perfect way to elect presidents, although "majority rule, comparing just two candidates at a time" seems to be the best solution. Candidates winning the fewest votes would not be elected, and "fringe candidates" would be prevented from changing the outcome of an election. Mr. Maskin pointed out that for this to happen it would be incumbent on each state to eliminate its Electoral College, rather than waiting for

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Halloween Encounter

Continued from page three

a constitutional amendment to be passed.

Students were encouraged to ask questions after Mr. Maskin's presentation. One student wondered whether the country could vote on issues, rather than for or against candidates. In his response the Nobel laureate said that the problems with this scenario would include determining who decides what the issues are, and how these arbiters would be chosen. He also wondered how you can be sure where a candidate stands on a given issue, and suggested that voters should be wary of giving candidates too much credibility.

Edward Wang's year-long visit to this country is almost up. His father has been a visiting professor here, and they will return to their native China at the end of this month. Edward describes his time here as "a golden opportunity."

—Ellen Gilbert

INTROOUCING A NOBEL LAUREATE: Princeton High School junior Kan ("Edward") Wang, who met Eric S. Maskin on Halloween, gave the Introduction Tuesday morning in the PHS auditorium. *(Photo by Ellen Gilbert)*

Spotlight on Immigration For Annual MLK Day Event

Princeton University will commemorate the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. with its annual King Day celebration this Monday, January 21, at 1 p.m., in Richardson Auditorium of Alexander Hall, on the PU campus.

The event is free and open to the public. The theme of this year's program is immigration, a hotly debated topic today that is relevant to Dr. King given his concern for humanity. The keynote address will be delivered by José Huizar, a Princeton University trustee and graduate alumnus who is the first Latino immigrant to serve as a member of the Los Angeles City Council.

The event will include the presentation of awards to essay, poster and video contest winners in grades 4 through 12 from area schools, who submitted entries reflecting their views on how Dr. King might have participated in today's immigration debate.

In addition, the University will present the MLK Day Journey Award, recognizing a member of the Princeton faculty, staff or student body who best represents King's continued journey. The event also will include a performance by the CASYM Steel Orchestra of New York.

Mr. Huizar earned his master's in public affairs and urban and regional planning from Princeton's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs in 1994. He was named to the University's Board of Trustees in 2005, the same year he was elected to the Los Angeles City Council. As a city council member, Mr. Huizar's focus has included enhancing public safety, strengthening education and youth programs, and building more affordable housing and public transportation.

Previously, Mr. Huizar served two terms as president of the board of education for the Los Angeles Unified School District. During his tenure, he oversaw plans to build more than 160 new schools within eight years, the largest school construction program in the nation's history.

The names of the essay, poster and video contest winners will be posted on the University's King Day website, along with images of the posters and excerpts from the essays. Many of the posters also will be displayed during the program. The King Day website can be viewed at www.princeton.edu/mlk.

The event will be webcast live at www.princeton.edu/WebMedia/. It is convened by the University's Martin Luther King Day Committee and is coordinated by the Office of Communications and the Office of the Vice Provost for Institutional Equity and Diversity.

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HiTops: A Safe Haven for Teens, A Bustling Resource Center for All

"HiTops is not a Shoe Store," declared the headline for the cover story of the most recent issue of the not-for-profit group's newsletter, "The HiTops Guardian," alluding to the popular sneakers. What it *is* is an organization that deals with adolescent health and sexuality.

Even that description doesn't cut it, though. "We work with the whole young person: cognitively, emotionally, spiritually, and physically," observed Executive Director Lori Heninger. HiTops (Health-Interested Teens' Own Program on Sexuality) is a "lean, mean machine," according to Dr. Heninger. It employs 15 full- and part-time people (including Spanish-speaking staff), and offers a wide range of programs across the state. "We do a huge range of programming for anyone who loves and works with young people," she said.

HiTops, which is celebrating its 20th anniversary, is unique to Princeton, though its constituency comes from well beyond the Princeton area. Its successes in offering both expert-and peer-led educational groups, providing wellness and preventive healthcare services, offering psychological support services, and designing training, consultation, and educational products, has led over 45 high schools in the state to adopt its practices.

"Young people come here and they trust us," observed Dr. Henninger, quick to add that although some teens need and are grateful for the confidentiality offered, HiTops is happy to work as "partners with parents and schools" in sorting out problems having to do with sexual identity, sexual abuse, HIV/AIDS, smoking cessation, coping with bullying (in person and in cyberspace), and mental health.

Addressing the emotional well-being of teens is one of the areas Dr. Heninger would like to beef up in the future. "I'd love to have a mental health component here," she said wistfully. Suicide is the third largest cause of death among teens (after homicides and accidents), and, she noted, "I'm not sure that the biggest problem is with kids. 'Acting out' — doing 'bad things' like drugs and alcohol — is indicative of much deeper problems. People today are so afraid of teenagers, and that's a symptom of a much bigger societal problem that I think has to do with parents' fear of taking responsibility for their actions." Kids who are given everything, rather than earning it, she added, are actually at a disadvantage, since they don't have confidence in their own ability to accomplish anything. "Parents are in a difficult position," she added sympathetically. "They don't know how to deal with things that are beyond their comprehension."

Dr. Heninger would like New Jersey "to be the premier state for adolescent health care." First, though, she said, health care professionals need to make a map of all the currently available services for adolescents in New Jersey to determine where the gaps are. The bottom line, though, is that she is sure "we can make a difference."

Development and Marketing Director Julie Meyers is extremely grateful to the local community ("and not just parents") for its support, not only in the form of monetary contributions, but as volunteers and participants on the HiTops' Board and newly-created Advisory Council. Other financial support comes from private, public, and corporate foundations.

HiTops is located at 21 Wiggins Street in Princeton. Facilities include a Health Services Center and a second, larger building housing their Education Department and Administration. The Health Center, under the direction of Nurse-Practitioner Sandra Zordan-Friedman offers young people ages 14 through 26 services (at no cost, if they can't afford it) that include pap smears, instruction on doing breast and testicular examinations, screening and treatment for sexually transmitted diseases, and information about contraceptive use. The emphasis is on preventive practices, and the Center collaborates with, and makes referrals to, the broader medical community. Educational programs for youth, parents and guardians, and programs for parents and children together are offered in the adjacent Education and Administration building. HiTops' website, which provides a comprehensive overview of its programs, is at www.hitops.org.

—Ellen Gilbert

FOCUSING ON ADOLESCENT HEALTH: Sandra Zordan-Friedman is the Director of Health Services at HiTops. Approximately 15 to 20 people visit daily. *(Photo by Ellen Gilbert)*

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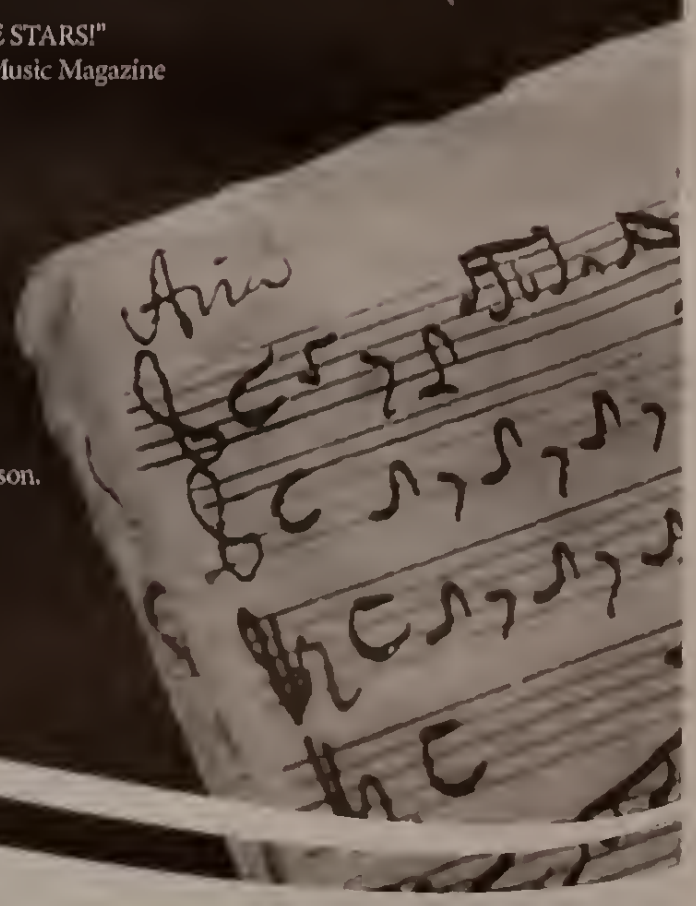

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Womanspace Teams Need Responsible Volunteers

Womanspace, a Mercer county-based, nonprofit agency dedicated to improving the the lives of women in crisis, is seeking volunteers for its Domestic Violence Victim Response Team (DVVRT), and its Sexual Assault Support Services Advocate Team (SASS). Both groups respond to calls from local police stations or hospitals, meeting with victims to provide support, information, and referrals. Since 1998 DVVRT and SASS teams have responded to 3,785 calls and served over 5,000 residents of Mercer County.

Qualifications for joining the teams include good communication skills and the ability to maintain confidentiality. Volunteers must be 18 years of age and a resident of or employed in the Mercer County area; have valid New Jersey Driver's License and available transportation; have no criminal history or prior history as a defendant in a domestic violence or related matter, and be available to attend classes and meetings. Interested persons must submit to a background investigation, including fingerprinting. Bilingual individuals, especially those fluent in Spanish, Polish, and American Sign Language, are encouraged to apply.

Volunteers will receive approximately 80 hours of extensive, specialized training on relevant legal concerns, being sensitive to the needs of victims and their children, and how to provide appropriate responses in different situations. Trained volunteers will be on call for two to four shifts a month. Training begins on March 5.

Applications for either team must be received by Friday, February 8. For more information, contact Heidi Mueller at dvvrt@womanspace.org or Alison Daks at sass@womanspace.org, or call (609) 394-0136.

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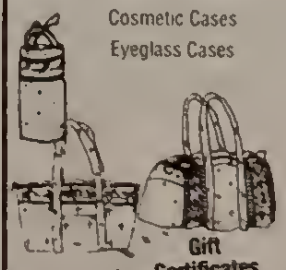

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"O, the Oprah Magazine, Smithsonian, National Geographic and the New Yorker."

— Teresa Castaldi, Princeton

"Seventeen, CosmoGIRL!, In Touch Weekly, and all the celebrity magazines."

— From left, Michelle Moreno, Hope Morgan and Annette Moreno, Princeton

"The Economist — that's about it."

— Joseph Studholme, Princeton

"Consumer Reports, the Sierra, and Bicycling."

— Phyllis Suber, Princeton

"Lucky and the Economist."

— Chandler Clay, Princeton University

Bob: "Business Week and Runner's World." Betiana: "Runner's World and Prevention."

Bob and Betina Bandel, Princeton

Police Blotter

PU Student's Bogus Claim Cleared by Township PD In Light of Campus Action

A 23-year-old Princeton University junior will not be charged with filing a false police report, Princeton Township Police said Monday, after the department met with University Public Safety and concluded that further investigation would continue in an on-campus capacity.

The student, Francisco Nava, was charged with filing a phony police report last month describing a December 14 incident in the Princeton Community Village where he was allegedly attacked by two white males wearing ski masks while visiting a friend. After a short investigation, however, police determined that the reported attack was fabricated, and that Mr. Nava's facial wounds, which he claimed to have suffered during the incident, were self-inflicted.

If police had pursued the original charges for filing a false police report, a misdemeanor offense, Mr. Nava could have faced a fine of up to $1,000 and community service, as well as possible minimal jail time. Mr. Nava was also linked to a series of threatening e-mail messages to four on-campus victims.

But in a report issued Monday, police cited Mr. Nava's reported personal mental health history, as well as the University's continuing disciplinary process, as the reason for dropping the charges.

Princeton University spokesperson Cass Cliatt could not elaborate on campus adjudication, except that Mr. Nava was still enrolled at the University, in regard to the investigation into the e-mail threats (categorized as a disorderly persons offense), none of the four victims wanted to pursue criminal charges, she said. Instead, the threats will be handled through the University's disciplinary process. The details or outcome of any disciplinary process involving a student is, by law, not public information, Ms. Cliatt said.

—Matthew Hersh

Princeton Township

Police responded to a motor vehicle accident on January 9, at 6:39 p.m. on Route 206 near Cherry Valley Road. When police arrived at the scene, Sion Kim, 35, of Newtown, Pa., driving a 2002 Saab 9-3, reportedly told police that she was driving north on Route 206 when a car passed her and then stopped abruptly, causing Ms. Kim to rear-end the vehicle, whose driver subsequently fled the scene in his car, though leaving a fallen license plate in the wake of the accident. Police were able to determine the car Ms. Kim struck was a 1996 Toyota Camry, driven by Augustine Gonzalez, 32, of New Brunswick. The New Brunswick Police Department was contacted and Mr. Gonzalez was later issued summonses for leaving the scene of an accident and for failing to report an accident. Both drivers complained of neck pain.

Police responded to a traffic accident on January 12, at 9:39 p.m. at the corner of Poe and Princeton-Kingston roads. According to reports, Janice Green, 53, of Plainsboro, driving a 2004 Mini Cooper, was traveling south on Princeton-Kingston Road when her car rear-ended a 2006 Toyota Rav4, driven by Robert Mahar, 61, of Philip Drive, who was stopped in the road waiting to make a left turn on to Prospect Avenue. The impact from Ms. Green's car reportedly pushed Mr. Mahar's car into the northbound lane of Princeton-Kingston Road. Mr. Mahar's car was subsequently struck again, this time by a 2005 Chevy Trailblazer, driven by Edwin Vega, 47, of Parlin, who was driving north on Princeton-Kingston Road. No serious injuries were reported, and Ms. Green was taken to the University Medical Center at Princeton for a small mouth laceration and a complaint of right knee pain.

Princeton Borough

Brian Skevington, 18, of Pennington, was arrested January 7, at 2:20 a.m., after he was allegedly found to be in possession of marijuana following a Wiggins Street motor vehicle stop. He was later released.

The Princeton Borough Police Department has reported the following warrant arrests:

Vonzell Irving Kelly, 20, of Princeton Borough, on January 4, at 8 p.m., for a $120 warrant out of Trenton Municipal Court. Mr. Kelly was also charged with defiant trespass after he was observed entering a residence on Maple Terrace in Princeton Township;

Rashan McMillon, 23, of Hamilton, on January 5, at 1:11 a.m., for a $209 warrant out of Piscataway Township Municipal Court;

Samuel Marquez, 26, of Hamilton, on January 8, at 1:11 p.m., for a combined $1,750 in warrants out of Princeton Borough and Hamilton Township municipal courts. Mr. Marquez was held in lieu of posting bail;

Michele Herbert, 23, of Princeton Township, on January 8, at 11:06 p.m., for a $401 warrant out of Hopewell Township Municipal Court;

Maribel Santos-Santiago, 23, of Trenton, on January 9, at 9:55 a.m., for a $500 warrant out of Hamilton Township Municipal Court.

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A LUSCIDUS LANDSCAPE: It was food heaven Sunday afternoon at Dorothea's House. This year's Polenta Festival featured music by Cajun Spice. (Photo by J. Greenblat)

Firewire

The all-volunteer Princeton Fire Department responded to a number of calls this week.

Volunteers were sent to the Princeton Shopping Center in response to an odor of smoke Wednesday, January 2. They found an odor of ammonia in one of the stores that was the result of a cleaning crew mopping the floor with ammonia. The fumes had set off the smoke detector.

On Sunday, January 6, crews were sent to investigate a broken water main behind the Witherspoon House, next to the Princeton Public Library. They discovered the pipe to the outdoor water spigot had broken and when the spigot could not be turned off, they went into the basement and turned off the water.

Also on Sunday, volunteers responded to a call for smoke in a Constitution Hill residence. The smoke detector had been set off by smoke from a heating device that was not working properly.

Crews were sent to a Riverside Drive residence Tuesday, January 8, to investigate a strange odor. They isolated the odor to the kitchen and checked for carbon monoxide. They also used a thermal imaging camera to check for hidden fire, but none was found. The resident was advised to open the windows and ventilate the house.

On Thursday, January 10, volunteers were sent to check out an odor of smoke in the vicinity of Walnut Lane and Terhune Road. They found smoke coming from the back yard of a residence, where the homeowner was burning tree limbs in a fire pit. The resident was advised of open-burning laws, and the small fire was extinguished.

A Four-Alarm Fire

Also on Thursday, volunteers were called to investigate what was initially thought to be some bushes burning at Princeton University faculty housing on College Road at Alexander Street, but turned out to be a four-alarm fire. When they arrived they found smoke and fire coming from the three-story building across the street from McCarter Theatre. The handful of residents who were at home in the multi-family building were evacuated.

Firefighters entered the building and tried to put out the fire with hoses, but retreated when it appeared that the blaze was above their heads in the attic. Additional help was summoned from neighboring fire companies, and firefighters sprayed streams of water on the fire from two ladder tower trucks.

It took about two hours to extinguish the fire. Investigators stayed at the scene until 10:30 p.m., which was nearly eight hours after the first call was made to the Police Department.

The Princeton Fire Department is always seeking members. If interested, please call (609) 731-1313 or (609) 540-9343.

Rescue Report

The Princeton First Aid & Rescue Squad responded to 35 calls for service last week.

On Saturday, January 5, the Squad responded for a person who passed out at a wedding reception. According to reports, the patient felt nauseous and lost consciousness for a few minutes. The crew administered oxygen and transported the patient to University Medical Center at Princeton (UMCP) for evaluation.

On Wednesday, January 9, the Squad responded for an elderly man who reported he lost control of his car while pulling into his driveway. The vehicle broke through a fence, traveling into a neighbor's yard before striking several trees. The patient suffered facial injuries and was secured to a spinal immobilization device before being transported to UMCP.

On Friday January 11, the Squad responded for a bicyclist struck by a car. The patient reported lacerations, abrasions, and numbness in his face and leg. The crew secured the man to a spinal immobilization device and transported him to UMCP.

Later that afternoon, the Squad responded for an individual who was injured when a weight from an exercise machine reportedly fell off and struck his head. The patient suffered a two-inch laceration, which was bandaged prior to transport to UMCP.

The Princeton First Aid & Rescue Squad is a non-profit organization. For more information on donating time, money or professional services, visit www.pfars.org or call (609) 924-3338.

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ALL IN A DAY'S WORK

YWCA Aquatics Director Barbara Griggs.

"Did you feel that? If you say no, we have to start all over!" Barbara Griggs, Director of the Aquatics program at the Princeton YWCA, means business. Among the many classes she teaches, "Aqua Dynamics," a combination of fast-paced shallow water aerobics and deep-water workouts, is one of her favorites. She puts participants through their paces, cajoling them to "tighten your stomach!" and "squeeze your buttocks!" Is she a marine drill sergeant in disguise? Hardly. Ms. Griggs has a definite gleam in her eye, and devoted participants who return year after year know that behind the you-will-do-this façade is a deeply committed professional who loves her work.

—Ellen Gilbert

I have a Health and Physical Education Degree. I started working here part-time in 1986 under Marianne Jasien, and switched to full-time in 1994 when I moved up to Assistant Director. I became Director in 2000 when Marianne retired.

I've always loved sports. I was a real tomboy. I played everything in high school — basketball, softball, field hockey, soccer, tennis — you name it. My mom would say, "You can't play your whole life," but I would say "Oh yes you can!" In a way, I was one of the pioneers, since this was before girls' sports became so popular.

I'm certified to teach Water Exercise, Water Safety Instruction, and I'm a life guard instructor. I'm from the "old school"; I believe you should be prepared to do any- and everything in the program, from parent-toddler swim to the rehab classes for older adults.

Right now the YWCA is being challenged by the newer facilities that have gone up in the Princeton area. Our enrollment is down, and we're not getting new, young families, so we've tried to accommodate. We offer more times for lap swimming. Lots of parents work now, and a new "gym and swim" class for preschoolers has worked out really well. Parents drop off pre-schoolers at 1:30. The kids get a half-hour of instruction in the pool, and another half-hour in the gym. Parents love it — they have an hour to themselves. We also have a nice arrangement with Small Wonders, a local nursery school. In fall and spring the children walk over with their teachers for a swim class. We'd like to do more with other nursery schools in the area.

A popular adult class that combines working out in the weight room with deep-water exercise is "Land and Sea," on Tuesday mornings.

The YWCA's aquatics program in Plainsboro, under the direction of Wendy Trochenbrod, is a great success. In just ten years — offering only evening and Saturday afternoon classes — it's grown to be two-thirds the size of the Princeton program. There's a growing population in that area. If we had more time we could make that program even bigger.

Outreach with the John Witherspoon pool hasn't worked that well. The water's too cold for many of our members, and older children don't want to go there. Also, the rental fee is high.

The Community Park pool, though, is really important to us. I teach water safety instruction to camp and pool staff there. I train lifeguards in CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) and AED use (automated external defibrillator) in order for them to qualify as "Professional Rescuers." I also teach staff there how to lead parent-toddler classes. Spring is always busy getting Community Park folks ready for the summer. Once the summer starts, we also do adult classes there.

The YW's "Adapted Aquatics" class for children who are mentally or physically challenged is very special. We work one-on-one with special needs children — I have wonderful stories. I taught a boy who doesn't have legs how to swim and he won gold medals in the Special Olympics.

A year ago I started a water-wellness program through the YWCA for women with breast cancer. Those women are so strong! When they thank me, I tell them, "I get more out of this than you do." Water therapy with seniors is also really gratifying. One man told me he felt better after two months in the pool than after two years of exercise on land. I call it "healing water." Take that gravity away and people feel great! He doesn't have a lot of money — he's on scholarship. It's good that money is available for people (young and old) like that.

The water is where I live. It's the best place to be. Where else could I do what I love, work out, stay healthy, and get paid?

Up! Down! 12 bicep curls! Roll those shoulders! Control it! Keep pressing!

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SPEECH STYLES: FROM REAL LIFE TO STAGE LIFE*	Monday: 2:00 pm
Gordon Jacoby	*4 weeks beginning March 24*
WRITINGS, ACTS, AND CULTURE: PUBLIC WOMEN IN NEW ENGLAND 1837 TO 1937	Tuesday: 10:00 am
Liz Socolow	*10 weeks beginning March 11*
GEORGE ELIOT'S *MIDDLEMARCH* AND ARNOLD BENNETT'S *THE OLD WIVES' TALE*	Tuesday: 10:00 am
Peggy Kelly	*8 weeks beginning March 4*
A RATIONAL ENERGY POLICY IN THE UNITED STATES	
Lawrence Weiss, David Southgate	Tuesday: 10:00 am *8 weeks beginning March 25*
COSMIC PERSPECTIVES	Tuesday: 2:00 pm
Paul Rockman	*7 weeks beginning February 26*
GREAT DECISIONS 2008	Tuesday: 2:30 pm
Jeanne Gorrissen, Elaine Jacoby	*8 weeks beginning March 4*
THE NOVELS OF EMILE ZOLA	Wednesday: 10:30 am
Carol Boyle	*8 weeks beginning March 5*
AMERICA 1750-83: A LIVING HISTORY	Wednesday: 10:30 am
Stanley & Cindy Saperstein	*10 weeks beginning March 5*
FORM AND MEANING IN SHORT FICTION	Wednesday: 2:00 pm
Alex Liddie	*8 weeks beginning March 5*
RELIGION AND POLITICS IN EARLY AMERICAN CULTURE	Thursday: 10:00 am
Henry W. Bowden	*8 weeks beginning March 6*
"O RARE BEN JONSON": VOLPONE OFF THE PAGE	Thursday: 10:00 am
Barbara Herzberg	*6-8 weeks beginning March 27*
HOW DO CONTEMPORARY POEMS MEAN?	Thursday: 2:00 pm
Lois Harrod	*8 weeks beginning March 6*
FACES AND FIGURES IN ART	Friday: 10:00 am
Dee Gozonsky, Museum docents	*6 weeks beginning March 7*
VIRGIL'S *AENEID*: EPIC MYTH OF ROME'S FOUNDING	Friday: 10:30 am
Don Luecke, Carol Tindall	*8 weeks beginning March 7*

* Mini course

Classes are for two hours, once a week. Course start as noted above.

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Nassau Inn

continued from page one

Spiezle Architectural Group, Inc., in "keeping pace within the hospitality industry, providing more functional accommodations for guests, and obtaining much needed program space."

The firm maintained that any expansion would remain sensitive to surrounding neighborhoods and would maintain the hotel's "inn status."

A Nassau Inn expansion is a long time coming for the hotel, which has felt pressure from an increasing stock of hotels and conference centers along the Route 1 corridor. The Spiezle group pointed to this trend, reporting that new assembly space, outdoor dining areas, and more accommodating guest rooms make for "an absolute priority for the Inn in order to continue providing for the Princeton area's hotel, dining, meeting, and social needs."

The report also identifies "outdated" mechanical, HVAC, electrical, and plumbing systems that "can not properly be addressed without doing so as part of an all-inclusive project encompassing the entire property."

That all-inclusive project would include renovating 84 guest rooms along the Palmer Square East side of the hotel. The remodeling would reduce the number of rooms in this wing by 28, leaving a total of 56 rooms.

Along the Palmer Square West side, early plans show that the inn would demolish the existing one-story building occupied by Lindt Chocolate, and replace it with a three-story, 9,000 square-foot building with ground floor retail, second floor meeting space, and a third floor storage area. A new entrance to the Tap Room Restaurant would be built there, along with a new landscaped area with outdoor dining, listed in preliminary plans as consisting of eight tables.

Neither Lori Rabon, the Nassau Inn's general manager, or Thomas Letizia, attorney for the Nassau Inn, could be reached for comment.

The Regional Planning Board of Princeton is slated to hear the Nassau Inn concept plan at Township Hall this Thursday, January 17, at 7:30 p.m.

—Matthew Hersh

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MONDAY

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and

Township

Cordon Bleu or SAT Prep? Summer Choices for Teens

The Fifth Annual Summer Trip and Program Fair will be held at Princeton High School on Wednesday, January 23, from 7 to 9 p.m.

Students from all area high schools and their parents are invited to attend the fair, where they will be able to meet with representatives from close to 40 summer programs offering activities that range from surfing in the Galapagos to a wilderness expedition in the Pacific Northwest to learning to cook in France. The event is hosted by Princeton High School Parent Teachers Organization (PTO) and sponsored by Tips on Trips and Camps, a free overnight camp consulting service for ages 8 thru 18. Admission is free. Several of the programs will be offered for the first time.

"When teens outgrow traditional overnight camp or want to go away for the first time, there are many enriching and challenging opportunities to choose from," said Helaine Isaacs, a consultant with Tips on Trips and Camps who is arranging the event. Travel-loving or service-oriented participants can study marine biology while sailing and scuba diving in the British Virgin Islands, work in an orphanage in China, or rock climb, raft, and hike in Colorado. They can focus on public health issues in South Africa; backpack the Alps, ski and snowboard in British Columbia, or paint in Provence. Theme-related leadership programs are offered in Washington, D.C. as well the chance to do building renovation in New Orleans; or participate in a Model UN.

Students can also study on a college campus and take college credit courses or enrichment classes, sometimes combined with SAT or college admissions preparation. Fine and performing arts programs and tennis internships are also available.

"Some teens and parents have a high degree of comfort traveling to remote regions and are seeking trips to exotic locations," noted Ms. Isaacs. "Others prefer domestic programs. Some other factors to consider are budget, the level of creature comforts the teen requires; 'light camping' versus backpacking; and campus-based versus homestay living arrangements in a foreign country. Some teens want a more cerebral experience; others are excited by the physical challenge."

Parents can call Ms. Isaacs for a free consultation prior to the fair and then use the fair to meet representatives of the programs that appeal to their teen, or they and their child can use the fair to explore the range of available options. Ms. Isaacs will be available for a free consultation after the fair to discuss the information families received. Since programs at the fair are just a small sample of those represented by Tips on Trips and Camps, parents can call Ms. Isaacs to request additional programs if they don't find what they're looking for at Wednesday's event.

"Based on our knowledge of the programs and the parent feedback we receive on them each year, we can provide parents and students with much more information than they can obtain on the internet, said Ms. Isaacs. "Parents often call saying that all the websites look alike and they're seeking help sorting through all this information."

For more information on the Summer Trip and Program Fair or for a free consultation on summer opportunities, contact Helaine Isaacs, at Tips on Trips and Camps, 609-497-3434, or helaine@tipsontripsandcamps.com, or visit the program's website at www.tipsontripsandcamps.com.

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10 Births Reported At Princeton Hospital

The Princeton HealthCare System has reported 10 births the week of January 5, 2008.

Daughters were born to Jennifer and Randall Miller, Cranbury, January 7; Milena Sasic and Michael Alfred DeLuca, Princeton, January 7; Maria and Guillermo Conde, Lawrenceville, January 8; Prasuna and Manohar Reddy Kadiveti, Princeton, January 9; and Shri Suba and Sateesh Prabakaran, Princeton, January 10.

Sons were born to Maria and Claus Bahlmann, Princeton, January 5; Laura and Brian Okupski, Princeton, January 7; Amy and Jeffrey Hauger, Lawrenceville, January 7; Amy and Wade Grabow, Princeton, January 10; and Carla and Renato Silvestre, Lawrenceville, January 10.

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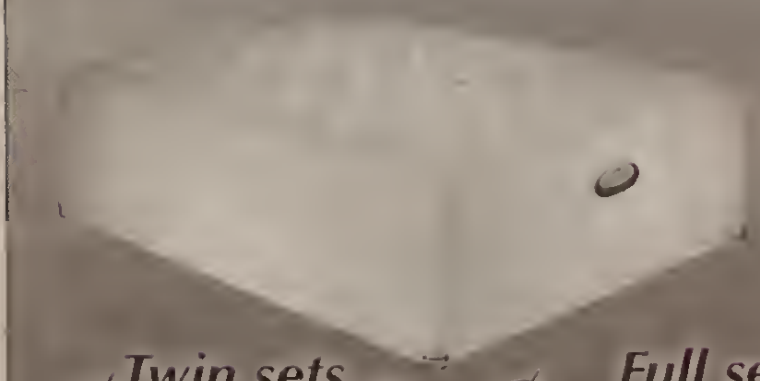

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Senior Housing

continued from page one

tract, which is owned by the Short Hills-based Chatham Capital Investors, LLC. That plan, however, was scrapped in late 2006 when the prospective developer, K. Hovnanian, backed out, citing a decline in the age 62-and-over market, as well as a reported disagreement in purchase price from the property owners. Mr. Hillier, who had outlined a total of 158 units on site, will pay roughly $10 million for the property, contingent on final zoning approval.

No formal development plan has been submitted, and while it is widely expected that Mr. Hillier would develop the site if the new zoning were approved, Township Hall has made a point of stating that this new zoning was crafted for any prospective developer, and not just Mr. Hillier.

While the signature component of the proposed ordinance is a minimum age reduction to 55, Committee implemented several new revisions to the 2001 zoning, including a mandated Princeton preference for all the market-rate units, including 24 units that would be marketed to prospective middle-income residents. The Princeton preference would not apply to the 12 proposed affordable units for low- and moderate-income residents, in line with state law. Specifically, the ordinance outlines eight moderate-income and four low-income units.

Prospective residents who would get right of first refusal would include: current Princeton Borough and Township residents; parents and children of current residents; those who were residents of either Princeton Borough or Princeton Township within the past five years prior to a development's approval date; current, active emergency volunteers of the Princeton Fire Department, and the First Aid & Rescue Squad; and current employees of the Township, Borough, Princeton Public Library, Princeton Regional Board of Education, or employees of any of the joint municipal agencies.

Any developer will also be required to donate at least three acres of land to the Township for "future municipal purposes," including the rehabilitation of an existing, 1970s-era detention basin across Bunn Drive on land also owned by Chatham Capital. The renovation of the basin would be to accommodate adjacent affordable units. A developer would also be required to provide a cash contribution to the Princeton Township Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

The last marquee component of the ordinance is a provision that requires that a minimum of eight-and-a-half acres on the site be left completely undisturbed, with a minimum of 12 acres providing common open space.

While Committee members insisted that existing zoning would allow for a 90,000-square-foot, 450-parking-space office facility, residents in opposition were unmoved, saying that any development should be avoided. Residents also took exception to the perceived role Mr. Hillier had in working with the municipal planning department in assembling the proposed ordinance.

"This is not a senior housing issue, but an issue of leadership and honesty as it relates to development," said Township resident Chuck DiSanto, who presented Committee with the petition. Mr. DiSanto, representing the resident-based Campaign to Save Princeton Ridge, went on to say that the housing policy was "largely developer driven."

Liz Cutler, a faculty member at Princeton Day School, as well as a member of the Sustainable Princeton steering committee, urged Township to make its environmental provision more stringent. The proposed ordinance requires a developer to meet the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design standards, but does not mandate LEED's "silver" classification, a level of building Mr. Hillier said he would meet. "If he can do it, why not do it?" Ms. Cutler asked.

Township resident Tom White worried that the units would not be as affordable as residents might expect: "This is not senior housing," he said, calling the proposal "uber-upscale housing with amenities." Borough resident Henry Powsner said there "is not good justification for building on the Ridge," and urged Committee to find property owners elsewhere to develop their properties for housing, specifically referencing the Princeton Shopping Center.

And while the opposition outweighed those in favor, the housing advocates who extended their 15-year battle for senior housing into Township Hall Monday night urged Committee to pass the ordinance at the end of the month. "Diversity in housing makes for a more stable community," said Township resident Sandra Persichetti. Ms. Persichetti, who prefaced her comments that she was speaking as a private resident, is the director of Princeton Community Housing, the largest provider of low- and moderate-income rental housing in Princeton.

Susan Loew, also a Township resident, refuted the notion that the Township was being favorable to the developer in crafting a new ordinance: "We are not reinventing the wheel by changing the age to 55."

The Regional Planning Board of Princeton will review the changes to the Township's RSC-2 Zoning District Thursday, January 17, at 7:30, at Township Hall. Princeton Township Committee is slated to hold a public session before casting its final vote on the ordinance at its January 28 meeting, at 7 p.m., at Township Hall.

—Matthew Hersh

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People

Nicholas Bodnar

Retired Teacher to Hear Young Cellist Play

Nicholas Bodnar, a 2007 graduate of The Lawrenceville School and currently a freshman at Harvard University, will perform later this month at Glencairn Museum in Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania. An added fillip to this performance will be the presence in the audience of Nicholas's 99-year-old teacher, Orlando Cole, a retired professor from the Curtis Institute.

Son of Dr. Andrew Bodnar and Dr. Amy Pruitt-Bodnar of Princeton, Mr. Bodnar is co-principal of the Harvard Radcliffe Orchestra. He also plays with the Harvard's Brattle Street Chamber Players, and has collaborated with the university's dance and opera ensembles. He was principal cellist of the Youth Chamber Orchestra at Temple Music Prep's Center for Gifted Young Musicians, and in 2005 was heard on Public Radio International's "From the Top" program.

Does the 18-year-old anticipate any last-minute advice from his teacher of seven years? "He hasn't specified thus far," Mr. Bodnar said. "He's pretty confident in my ability."

Mr. Bodnar will perform at 3 p.m., January 27 at Glencairn Museum, 1001 Cathedral Rd. He will be joined by Nozomi Takashima, staff piano accompanist at the Temple Center for Gifted Children in Philadelphia. The hour-long performance will feature Brahms's Cello Sonata in F Major, but will also include some "less-heavy, more showy pieces," said Mr. Bodnar.

Winner of numerous competitions, Mr. Bodnar performed with the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra in the 2006 Young Artists Auditions, and in Miami as the national winner of the 2007 National Foundation for the Advancement in the Arts scholarship competition. During the summers of 2001 thru 2005, he studied at the ENCORE School for Strings at the Cleveland Institute of Music. This past summer Mr. Bodnar received a scholarship to participate in the Colorado College Summer Music Festival. He has studied at Temple's Boyer College of Music since the age of 10.

Mr. Bodnar claims that he discovered music through his older brother Benjamin.

"He played the violin and I'd sit around listening to him practice," recalled Mr. Bodnar. "One day I stole his violin and held it in the position of a cello. I demanded a musical instrument of my own and it caused my parents to have me start the cello."

Mr. Bodnar is not yet certain whether he'll pursue a career in music or the sciences.

Doors for the January 27th concert open at 2:30 p.m. Admission is $5; free for museum members. For additional information, call Glencairn at (267) 502-2600 or visit www.glencairnmuseum.org.

Diana Goodman of Princeton, and **Johanna Schneider** of Skillman, were among those students named to both the Honor Roll and the Head of School's List for the first term of the 2007-08 school year at George School. Both girls are seniors at the Newtown, Pa. boarding and day school. Head of School's List is comprised of students nominated by at least 5 faculty and staff members for their diligence, constructive attitude, thoroughness, dependability, punctuality, and overall commitment to excellence.

MASTER GARDENER: Kathy Enquist of Princeton will demonstrate how to use design elements to create more interesting and successful flower gardens, when the Master Gardeners of Mercer County host a program, "Color, Shape and Texture in the Garden," on Monday, January 28, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. The program will be held at Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Mercer County, 930 Spruce Street, Lawrence, adjacent to the Trenton Farmers Market. A donation of $3 is suggested, to benefit the Master Gardeners of Mercer County educational programs. To pre-register for the program call (609) 989-6830.

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A GRAND OPENING FOR THE RED CROSS: Last Wednesday, the American Red Cross of Central New Jersey formally opened its William J. Noonan Disaster Operations Center in the Red Cross's newly acquired building space at 707 Alexander Road, Suite 302, in West Windsor. The Red Cross acquired the space using funds raised by the Keeping the Promise to a Safer Community Campaign, which was chaired by the Red Cross's past board chairman William J. Noonan. The campaign raised over $3,000,000 in three years, with half of the funds used to purchase and outfit the space and the other half to enhance safety programs and services at the chapter. Pictured from left are: U.S. Rep. Rush Holt (D, NJ-12); chapter chairman Robert Mooney; Red Cross Penn-Jersey Blood Services CEO Brigid O'Neill-LaGier; chapter CEO Kevin Sullivan; and board member Gil Lugossy.

Pay Increases

continued from page one

percent increase of base pay after five years, 2 percent after eight years, 3 percent after 10 years, 4 percent after 15 years, 5 percent after 20 years, and 6 percent after 24 years.

Princeton Borough allocated roughly $3.3 million in police salaries and wages in 2007.

Mr. Goldfarb said the state Legislature "should be realizing that the decisions they make have consequences on municipalities across New Jersey where police salaries are a very big part of the budget.

The police budget is the largest budget item for Princeton Borough. "The compounded growth of the police budget is just enormous, and most of it is related to decisions over which we have no control," Mr. Goldfarb said.

Borough administrator Robert Bruschi warned that the Borough could reject the offer and enter into a binding arbitration process, with the prospect of having to ultimately pay higher salaries, which was what resulted the last time the Borough attempted to fight the state over salary hikes, he said.

"The cards are stacked in favor of the police unions," Mr. Goldfarb said, suggesting that the only option the Borough had was to resist promotions, though he added that resisting promotion would be an unlikely scenario.

—Matthew Hersh

Local Fare
from Princeton's kitchens

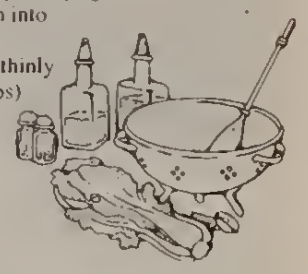
Watercress, Fennel & Romaine Salad with Pernod Dressing

from Ellen Gilbert, Town Topics Staff Writer

This recipe appeared in The New York Times over twenty years ago. It has graced many dinner parties since then. You might like to warn guests that what appear to be slices of breath-destroying onion are actually wonderful, crisp, licorice-flavored slivers of fennel (sometimes referred to as "anise.")

The salad:

6 bunches watercress (about 12 cups of sprigs)
2 large heads romaine lettuce, torn into small pieces (about 8 cups)
3 heads fennel, tops removed and thinly sliced across the bulb (about 6 cups)



The dressing:

1 cup fresh orange juice
1 cup olive oil
1/4 cup fresh lemon juice
4 teaspoons kosher salt
5 tablespoons Pernod
Freshly ground black pepper

1. Wash the greens well, then dry them. Refrigerate in a large plastic bag, undried, if preparing ahead.
2. Whisk together the dressing ingredients. Just before serving, place the greens in one or two large salad bowls. Divide the dressing evenly between the bowls. Toss well to combine. Yield: 20 servings.

More to come... Watch this space weekly for Princeton's favorite recipes... *Provided by Robin Broomer, Town Topics*

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Its "Green" Design Elements Commend Hillier Proposal for Bunn Drive Housing

To the Editor:

As long-term Princeton residents we strongly support the amendment of the Township Ordinance which would enable the development of senior housing on Bunn Drive. Senior housing in Princeton can no longer be postponed. For years seniors have been obliged to move out of town when they are ready to sell their homes and downsize. Market rate senior housing does not exist in Princeton. Many seniors are eager to remain in Princeton where they have lived for years, raised their families, worked, paid taxes, and volunteered.

Much public concern has been expressed about the proposed location. Mr. Hillier's exciting and creative design directly addresses environmental issues. Compared with the approved Hovnanian proposal and the existing office zone and senior overlay requirements, Mr. Hillier's plan increases natural open space and common open space while reducing impervious coverage and disturbance area. This innovative design has many "green" elements including green roofs, storm water cisterns for the sprinkler system, grey water recycling, renewable materials, natural ventilation and enclosed parking.

The time has come to move on senior housing. We are most fortunate to have a proposal which can make senior housing a reality and which also addresses the community's environmental concerns. This is an opportunity Princeton should take.

RUTH BRONZAN
Murray Place
SHIRLEY DWORK
Philip Drive
LILY HARISH-CHANDRA
Battle Road
PEI HSIANG
Tyson Lane
SUSAN AND HAROLD LOEW
Overbrook Drive

Harmful Tax, Environmental Consequences Would Accompany High-Density Housing

To the Editor:

The arguments over the proposed Hillier "senior" housing development have overlooked an important consideration: Princeton's new Council on Affordable Housing (COAH) number. Developers are always eager for the opportunity to break Princeton's zoning laws in order to build high-density housing wherever possible. In the early 1980s a developer attempted to build 800 units of high-density housing on the Ridge. What stopped that development (and others) on the Ridge was a Township-sponsored environmental study and state guidelines showing major environmental consequences such as flooding.

If spot zoning is enacted on the Ridge, vacant lots and the increasing number of tear-down lots could generate zoning change lawsuits. Imagine high-density condos built on small lots in established neighborhoods. These high-density homes will have a major impact on our taxes, especially school taxes. We urge Township Committee to take this into consideration as they decide the fate of the Ridge properties.

SHEILA SIDERMAN
JERRY PALIN
Bouvant Drive

Further Invasion of Ridge Should Be Rejected by Regional Planning Board

To the Editor:

The Princeton Regional Planning Board has a unique and significant opportunity to reverse the follies of Princeton Township Committee by rejecting the amended ordinance that reduces the age-restriction from 62+ to 55+ on Princeton Ridge (Bunn Drive).

This area is environmentally sensitive terrain. In the 1980s intelligent zoning limited building to one dwelling per four acres. The later overlay, allowing almost unlimited impervious cover, should never have been permitted; the 2001 overlay encouraging residences for seniors should also have been barred. The amended ordinance would violate all Princeton Master Plans since 1968. The Planning Board is charged with rejecting all such violations.

Township Committee has never demonstrated a need for senior housing, and certainly not on environmentally fragile territory; it has produced no current demographic analysis to amending an ordinance crafted to suit architect Robert Hillier's desire to profit from Princeton. The ordinance has been called a "classic example of spot-zoning" and thus illegal; equally illegal is its exaction of a fee (hundreds of thousands of dollars) from the prospective builder.

The collusion between Township Committee and the developer to attack the Ridge on the Lowe tracts of Bunn Drive (21 acres) is part of a broader assault on all the undeveloped properties remaining on this part of the Ridge – not less than 56 acres, plus undeveloped habitat at Church and Dwight, All Saints' Church (51 acres), and Herrontown Woods (126 acres). This is a continuous area of at least 233 acres whose trees and root systems, undisturbed topsoil, and bedrock protect us from stormwater runoff, water pollution, and the poisoning of our air.

Regional planners must understand that the Princeton Ridge is much more extensive than Bunn Drive; it requires a regional approach. Otherwise, piecemeal invasions will dictate the shape of Princeton's ruined future. Developers assaulted other parts of the Ridge in 1984, 1988, and 2000; they must be stopped now. If there were ever a time for our Regional Planning Board to live up to its name, this is it. It is time to say "No." We must stop destroying crucial environmental features whose viability sustains the greater Princeton and regional area.

I urge citizens to go to the Princeton Township website, find the Regional Planning Board, and call or write them demanding that the Ridge be downzoned.

DANIEL A. HARRIS
Dodds Lane

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ART REVIEW

Jane Voorhees Zimmerli Art Museum

Hungarian Art in New Brunswick: An Embarrassment of Riches

According to Wikipedia, "embarrassment of rtches" ("an over abundance of something, or too much of a good thing") originated in 1738 tn John Ozell's translation of a French play from 1726, *L'Embarras des richesses*. Used here, it simply means that the riches at the Zimmerli challenge my ability to do justice to them in the space of a single column.

On view from now through March 16 in the Voorhees Special Exhibition Galleries, "The Magyar Imagination" is billed as "the largest and most important representation of Hungarian art of the 19th and 20th centuries outside of Central Europe" and the "first overview" that has ever been presented to the public. Drawn from the Salgo Trust Donation of Hungarian Art, the exhibit is made up of over 100 works instructively and imaginatively displayed. If you have the time and energy to take it in, you'll learn something about the history of Hungary and the lot of the artist there, particularly during and after the First World War. You can also appreciate the collection in the context of its setting since New Brnnswick boasts one of the largest and oldest Hungarian communities in the country. Driving to the museum, which is located at 71 Hamilton Street on the Rutgers campus, your route (Somerset Street is the best approach) takes you through the heart of the historic Hungarian neighborhood. New Brunswick is also the home of the American Hungarian Foundation, which includes an archive, a library, and its own collection of Hungarian-American art.

A Challenging Show

This complex and challenging superabnndance of works, styles, and periods features artists whose names will be known only to serions students of Central Enropean art. For me, one of the only exceptions and a highlight of the show was the photngrapher André Kertész and his cobblestone street townscapes of Esztergom.

Curator Oliver A.I. Botar's essay in the exhibit binchnre defines the Magyar imagination as "both closely related to, and distinct from the world view of other Enropean nations." After cautioning against oversimplification or caricature, Botar, who is an associate professor of art history at the University of Manitoba, refers to the Magyars' "highly distinctive langnage" and "mode of thonght" as "a conceptnal view that can be placed between the tragic, and highly politicized vision of Russian culture, and the more aestheticized and pastoral vision of the French." Both these visions are also represented among the nuseum's permanent holdings and in current exhibits such as "Printmaking from Soviet Estonia Part II" (In the Lower Dodge Galleries through January 27) and "The Heritage of the Russian Avant-Garde" (In the DuBrow galleries throngh May 23).

Avant-garde Fun

Although the core of the Zimmerli's holdings in Hungarian Early 20th-century avant-garde art is being exhibited now in Hungary ("Technical Detours: The Early Work of Moholy-Nagy Reconsidered," reviewed here in the fall of 2006), one of the most interesting features of the current show is the small group gathered under "Avant-garde Fun," which lives up to its title. You get the flavor of Budapest's night life in Gyula Batthyány's delirious, intricate, thickly textured, and richly animated oil from 1920, *Ballroom Fontosy*. A modernist vartation on the same theme is Hugó Schelber's *The Donce*. The subversive dynamics of the Budapest art scene circa 1922 is on display in a manifesto that declares "Down with art, because it sold itself. Down with still-lifes. Down with the caterwauling of aesthetes." The call is for putting new morals, new myths "onto the billboards" and new visions "onto the walls." The avant-garde fun also includes a wall labeled "The Erotic Imaginary." There's a definite gritty, exciting residue of between-the-wars Budapest in this corner of the show.

Landscapes and Women

Needless to say, the make-up of the exhibit reflects the taste of the man who built the collection and founded the Salgo Trust, the late Ambassador Nicholas M. Salgo, a Hungarian-American financier and diplomat. As Botar's essay points out, Salgo "was not particularly fond of either academic art or contemporary trends." His fondness for landscape painting and portraits of women is very much in evidence, however. If you had to choose a word to describe the dominant mood or mind-set of the exhibition it would be the opposite of upbeat. If you share my impression of the works in the first room, you may feel that you're walking through a gloomy landscape. Fortunately, the road leads to Budapest, women, and the abovementioned avant-garde scene.

Salgo's fondness for portraits of women is apparent throughout, first in the section featuring women of the *fin de siècle*, a period during which, according to Botar's essay, they were "alternately presented as being mysterious or sensuous, as idealized mothers and wives, even as demonic temptresses." As it turned out, I preferred the domestic simplicity of Sandor Bortnyik's gouache from 1936, *Womon Pouring Teo*. Another literal bright spot was the section of works by women from the period between the two wars when they themselves were painting instead of being painted. Be sure to see Noémi Ferenczy's tempera on tissue paper, *Womon With o Lamb*.

THE STAR OF THE SHOW: Agosf Canzi's "Portrait of a Lady with a Parakeet" (1856) has to be seen in person fo be appreciated, though you can at leasf see her in color af www.towntopics.com. She will be on view at the Jane Voorhees Zimmerli Museum in New Brunswick through March 16, along with more than 100 ofher works in "The Magyar Imaginafion," an exhibit billed as "the largest and most important representation of Hungarian art of the 19th and 20th centuries oufside of Central Europe." Gallery hours: Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Saturday-Sunday noon to 5 p.m. Admission: $3; free for museum members, Rutgers students, faculty and staff with ID, and under 18. Admission is free on the first Sunday of the month. For more information, visit www.zimmerlimuseum.rutgers.edu.

(Image from the Salgo Trust for Education)

Haunting Beauty

The range of "The Magyar Imagination" is illustrated by the two works hung side by side at the entrance: the playful contemporary, *White Dog*, by Dezsno Korniss and the oil on canvas painted more than a hundred years earlier, Agost Canzi's *Portroit of o Lady with o Porokeet*, which glows with the influence of Canzi's master, Ingres. Ever since I visited the Zimmerli, this beautiful nameless woman has been on my desk, staring at me from the front page of the brochure. Presumably the curators agree with me that she's, in effect, the star of the show, having been featured in all the publicity. To appreciate this work, you have to see its colors, preferably in person, or at least by visiting www.towntopics.com. The way the orange of the ribbons reflects the plumage of the parakeet is lovely, but what makes the portrait stunning are the flesh tones, eyes, and lips of the woman. She's impressive enough in black and white; in color, she's unforgettable. This is one of those portraits that transcends documentation, fame, nationality, and questions of artistic influence. What matters isn't that Canzi studied with Ingres. What matters is that he found this woman and captured an expression so frank and so subtle, so intelligent, and so suggestive, that she evokes the prototype of all mysterious women, DaVinci's *Mono Liso*. The background and dusky trappings of DaVinci's portrait create the aura of mystery that brings out the ambiguity in the expression. We also know that the woman who posed for DaVinci was probably Lisa del Giocondo. I've tried but have been unable to discover the identity of Canzi's subject; she is truly an unknown quantity even though the context is clearly domestic; this is the sort of portrait you see on the walls of ancestral homes. The artist was 47 at the time he painted this woman, so perhaps she was a professional model who also could have been — judging from the hint of amused intimacy in that half-smile — his mistress. Walter Pater picked up on the murky mood of the landscape DaVinci painted behind Mona Lisa, fancying that she was "older than the rocks among which she sits" and that she "has been dead many times and learned the secrets of the grave." With Canzi's nameless beauty a frank here-and-now quality comes through, suggesting wit, force, even a hint of something sly and sensual. Look at her eyes; she could be a modern woman sizing us up, putting us in our place. Whoever she was, she's the center of an extraordinary work of art that's easily, all by itself, worth the drive to New Brunswick and the $3 admission.

—Stuart Mitchner

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SUPERNOVA: This work by Rose Marie Strippoli will be part of her first solo show at the Hopewell Frame Shop's Gallery from Saturday, January 19, through Saturday, February 23. There will be an Open House from 6 to 8 p.m. on January 19 at the Shop's Broad Street location.

Award-winning Artist At Frame Shop Gallery

Award-winning artist Rose Marie Strippoli, whose work includes watercolors, acrylics, hand-crafted pottery, and enamels, will present her first solo show at the Hopewell Frame Shop's Gallery from Saturday, January 19, through Saturday, February 23. Abby Frantz, founding owner of the Hopewell Frame Shop, will host an Open House from 6 to 8 p.m. on January 19 at the Shop's Broad Street location. Patrons are encouraged to stop by for light refreshments and to meet the artist.

According to Ms. Frantz, "Rose Marie is an artist of incredible variety and talent; her work is full of layers and surprises. Regardless of her medium of choice, she produces vivid work that many find inspirational."

Ms. Strippoli, who resides in Bristol, Pa., is a latecomer to the world of painting. After raising four children and running her own bridal and design business, she began studying painting in earnest. She has attended workshops around the world, studied under many well-known artists and teachers, and attended Bowling Green and Jacksonville Universities and Bucks County and Larain County Community Colleges. A signature member of the Ohio Watercolor Society, the Pennsylvania Watercolor Society, and the Society of Experimental Artists, she has had a number of individual shows in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and now New Jersey. She aiso maintains associate membership in the American Watercolor Society.

This past year marked Ms.Strippoli's fifth time as participant in the Ohio Watercolor Society's Annual Juried Exhibition in Middletown, Ohio. She has twice participated in the Artsbridge Annual Juried Art Show in Lambertville, and in 2007, one of her canvases placed first. Two works, *Heortlight* (an acrylic) and *Woven Plote #10* (a ceramic), were selected for the 2005 book, *Best of Pennsylvonio Artists and Artisons*.

Ms. Strippoli acknowledged that she loves variety. "I immerse myself in a variety of media, for to me, each medium is simply a vehicle that ailows me to proclaim my message of the moment. I often ask myself 'Which one am I inspired to communicate through today?'"

For more information, contact Abby Frantz at the Hopewell Frame Shop at (609) 466-0817 or visit hopewell frameshop@comcast.net.

On Thursday January 24 at 6 p.m. the Arts Council of Princeton will host an Artists Potluck in its conTEMPORARY Arts Center. The event is open to all creative people involved in the arts. Each participant should bring a drink and dish to share for approximately six to eight people and should RSVP to Michael LaRiccia at (609) 924-8777. See the Arts Council of Princeton website for instructions on food preparation and kitchen facilities at the conTEMPORARY Arts Center before event @ www.artscouncilofprinceton.org. The conTEMPORARY Arts Center is located in the Princeton Shopping Center next to Rite-Aid/Eckerd pharmacy. There is plenty of parking available.

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NAKASHIMA

SELF-PORTRAIT: The creator ot this self-portrait, watercolorist Gail Bracegirdle will be giving a talk on Thursday, January 17, af 7 p.m. In the RiverRun Gallery, 287 South Main Street, Lambertville, New Jersey.

"SNOW ON THE RIVER": This 46" x 56" oil on canvas by Lu Zuo Geng can be seen at Oynasty Arts, 20 Nassau Street. The painting Is based on tho following Tang dynasty poem: "Myriad mountains no bird/ Countless paths no human footprint/ Lone skitt, bamboo cape-hat, the aged/ Angling In the river-snow destitute."

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Work by Gilda Aronovic At Jewish Center Gallery

The Gallery at the Jewish Center of Princeton is hosting an exhibit of paintings by Gilda Aronovic from now through March 16.

Ms. Aronovic became interested in art when her children were little. She began with a still-life art class in Princeton run by Sam Feinstein, a master teacher who had been a student of Hans Hofmann.

After doing still lifes for a number of years, she became intrigued with abstract painting and left the class to work on her own. According to Ms. Aronovic, what she learned from Mr. Feinstein helped her deal with the problem of determtning what shapes and colors to use in an abstract painting and how to organize them to create the forces that energize a painting.

Describing the process she follows, the artist said, "With nothing specific in mind, t throw paint on the canvas drawing shapes and relating them to each other as t go according to the dictates of mood and feelings of the moment. The colors I use, the brushes I choose and even hand and arm movements evoke a sense of being in front of an orchestra, bringing in the different instruments so their rhythms and harmonies create a musical work."

The Jewish Center Gallery is located at 435 Nassau Street in Princeton.

"JUBtLAtION": This painting by Gilda Aronovic can be seen at the the Gallery at the Jewish Center ot Princeton, 435 Nassau Street, from now through March 16. She began her career as an artist in a still-life art class in Princeton run by Sam Feinstein.

RiverRun Gallery Hosts Talk by Watercolorist

As part of its Distinguished Artists Series, Artsbridge is presenting a talk by watercolorist Gail Bracegirdle on Thursday, January 17. A signature member of the Philadelphia Water Color Society, she will talk about her techniques, thought processes, and how she experiments with new water color techniques. The event will be held at 7 p.m. in the RiverRun Gallery at the Lace Works Building, 287 South Main Street, Lambertville, New Jersey.

After a career in textile design, Ms. Bracegirdle took on a new challenge and dedicated her time and energy to watercolor. "t chose the fascinating world of watercolor," she said, "because I was drawn to the clean, environmentally sensitive nature of thls medium." She enjoys experimenting with various textures and styles of watercolor papers and pigments, always searching for the perfect combination of surface and paint to create a specific effect.

"In my representational paintings, I paint objects and places I find intriguing," she said. "However, whether I'm working in a representational way or with abstract forms, my goal is to share the excitement of my experiences with the observer."

Ms. Bracegirdle prefers to work from life or from sketches made on location in order to observe and capture the effects of direct and reflected light and shadow on her subject. Her artistic goal is to share the impression of an experience, a mood, or even an occasional visual pun through the language of transparent watercolor.

For more information about Artsbridge and the Distinguished Artists Series, visit them at www.artsbridge online.com.

Selma Bortner's Art At Pennswood Village

"Passionate Connections," a new exhibit by Selma Bortner, will be at the Pennswood Village Art Gallery from January 20 through March 2, with a reception January 20 from 3 to 4:30 p.m.

Ms. Bortner's works on paper, notably prints and watercolors, have been shown regionally for over 30 years. Meanwhile the artist was completing a 23-year teaching career at Bucks County Community College, where she chaired the Printmaking Department until her retirement in 1991. She has participated in more than 25 group shows nationwide; regionally she has had 16 one-person shows, the first at the Philadelphia Alliance, in 1968, and most recently, in 2003-04, at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School. Her work is in the collection of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the San Francisco Museum of Fine Arts, and the Michener Museum in Doylestown, Pa., in addition to several colleges and private institutions. Her extensive record of awards includes, in 1971, the Joseph Pennell Memorial Medal from the Philadelphia Water Color Club, and, in 2001, First Prize from the American Color Print Society. At present she devotes her time completely to printmaking.

In an "Artist's Statement" related to the upcoming exhibit, Ms. Bortner said, "t have created a body of work that in many ways is focused on the body itself; my own struggles with aging and illness, the use and abuse of women's bodies in the world culture, and lately, the broken bodies of car bomb victims in the Middle East."

The general public is invited to the reception. Gallery hours daily are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The Pennswood Village Art Gallery is located at 1382 Newtown-Langhorne Road, Newtown, Pa. (Route 413 South). For additional information, call Pennswood Village at (215) 968-9110.

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Area Exhibits

The Anne Reid '72 Art Gallery at Princeton Day School is hosting the fourth PDS Alumni Exhibition featuring work from 40 artists, including photographers, painters, sculptors, ceramicists, and installation artists, through January 18.

The Arts Council of Princeton will present the 2008 Faculty Exhibition at its conTEMPORARY Gallery in the Princeton Shopping Center from January 18 to March 1. An opening reception will be held Friday, January 18, from S:30 to 7:30 p.m. Members of the Arts Council faculty will be present at the opening. An Artists Potluck will be held on Thursday, January 24 at 6 p.m. RSVP to Michael LaRiccia at (609) 924-8777. For further information, visit www.artscouncilofprinceton.org.

The Coryell Gallery at the Porkyard, 8 Coryell Street in Lambertville, is hosting its Annual Holiday Exhibition. "Landscapes: Two Visions" features Albert L. Bross, Jr.'s oil paintings and Vincent Ceglia's watercolors and acrylics. The exhibition will continue through January 26.

The Erdman Gallery, located inside the Erdman Center at 20 Library Place in Princeton, is hosting an exhibit featuring mixed media works by Hetal Mistry that will be on display through Friday, February 22.

Firestone Library is presenting an exhibition of rare books, coins, medals and manuscripts, "Numismatics in the Renaissance," in the main gallery through July 20.

The Gallery at Chapin will be exhibiting work by photographer Lindsay Maiorana through February 1.

Gallery 125, 12S South Warren Street in Trenton, is presenting "Revolution," a group exhibit running through February 2.

Gallery 14 at 14 Mercer Street in Hopewell is hosting "Body Works," a group exhibit of photographs by its members through February 3. The Small Gallery is presenting an exhibit of member David Miller's infrared photographs of Egypt, "Unseen Egypt."

Gratz Gallery at 30 West Bridge Street in New Hope will be presenting an exhibit of work by Bucks County painter Richard Lennox through February 17.

Grounds for Sculpture is presenting "Focus on Sculpture," a juried exhibition of photographs by amateur photographers sharing sculpture as subject matter, through April 27. There are also three exhibitions of contemporary sculpture on view through April 27. The group show, "Enclosures," featuring work from John Isherwood, Wendy Ross, John Ruppert and Foon Sham, in the Museum Building; "Herk Van Tongeren: Serie Metafisica and Teatro" and the International Sculpture Center's 2007 Outstanding Student Achievement in Contemporary Sculpture Awards, in the Domestic Arts Building. For more information on Grounds For Sculpture's Special Events, visit www.groundsforsculpture.org.

Gruss Center of Visual Arts at the Lawrenceville School will be presenting an exhibit of wire, mesh, paper, and foil by Margaret Kennard Johnson in the Marguerite & James Hutchins Galley through January 26.

Historicel Society of Princeton, Bainbridge House, 1S8 Nassau Street, is presenting an exhibition of Princeton in the 1930s through July; hours: Tuesday-Sunday, 12 to 4 p.m.; free admission, donations accepted; Sunday Walking Tour of Princeton, 1.9 mile guided tour, allow 2 hours, meet outside at 2 p.m., no res. $7, $4 for children 6-12; for information call (609) 921-6748; or visit www.princetonhistory.org.

Hopewell Frame Shop's Gallery is presenting the watercolors, acrylics, handcrafted pottery, and enamels of Rose Marie Strippoli, from Saturday, January 19 through Saturday, February 23. An Open House will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. on January 19 at the Shop's Broad Street location.

Howard Gallery of Fine Art at 77 W. Bridge Street in New Hope, Pa., is presenting "Let it Snow," an exhibit featuring snow scenes by regional artists that will also be on view in the new Doylestown gallery at 4341 W. Swamp Road. Both shows run through January 31.

The James A. Michener Art Museum in Doylestown will be presenting "Elsie Driggs: The Quick and the Classical" will run from January 19 through April 12. "The Holy Experiment: Violet Oakley Mural Studies," featuring 13 original oil on canvas studies for murals in the Governor's Reception Room of the Pennsylvania Capitol Building in Harrisburg, will be on view through March 30 in the Pfundt Gallery. The museum is located at 138 South Pine Street in Doylestown. For more information, call (21S) 340-9800.

The Della Pinna Gallery at the New Hope Michener is presenting "Norman Rockwell in the 1940s: A View of the American Homefront" and "Charles Hargens: American Illustrator"through February 10.

The Jene Vorhees Zimmerli Art Museum in New Brunswick is presenting "The Magyar Imagination: Selections from the Salgo Trust Donation of Hungarian Art" through March 30. "Art Nouveau Illuminated: Lamps from the Sigmund Freedman Bequest" will be on view through April 20. The Zimmerli is located at 71 Hamilton Street on the College Avenue campus of Rutgers University in New Brunswick.

The Jewish Center of Princeton is hosting an exhibit of paintings by Gilda Aronovic through March 16. The Jewish Center Gallery is at 435 Nassau Street in Princeton.

The Lewis Center for Creative & Performing Arts, 185 Nassau Street on the Princeton University campus, will be presenting "The Collotype and the Artist's Book," an artist's book exhibition showcasing the collaborative work of guest artists and students in the Princeton Atelier. The show will run through January 17.

Morven Museum & Garden is presenting Ben Again, a pop culture memorabilia exhibit celebrating Ben Franklin in Pop culture.

The NJ Stete Museum is presenting "Selected Works: Art by African-Americans in the Museum's Collection," in the galleries in the Department of State building at 22S West State Street in Trenton. The exhibit will be on view through March 20. "Fancy Rockingham Pottery: The Modeller and Ceramics in Nineteenth-Century America," will be in the Auditorium Galleries, 205 West State Street, Trenton, through May 3.

Pennswood Village, 1382 Newtown-Langhorne Road in Newtown, Pa., will be showing work by Selma Bortner from January 20 through March 2, with a reception January 20 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Gallery hours: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily.

Princeton Studio at 30 Nassau Street is presenting "The Legacy and Relevance of George Nakashima" on one day only, Sunday, January 20. Mira Nakashima will be in the Studio that day from 3 to 6 p.m. to discuss her efforts to continue her father's legacy. Refreshments will be served. RSVP to princeton@dwr.com by January 19.

The Princeton University Art Museum is presenting "Inhabited Landscapes: Selected Works from the DuBois Schanck Morris Collection" through January 20.

The Trenton City Museum at Ellarslie Mansion in Cadwalader Park and The Trenton Museum Society are presenting "The World Dines Out: 100 Years at Trenton's Lamberton," exhibit displaying china produced at the city's Lamberton Works.

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MUSIC REVIEW

Princeton University Opera Brings Lively, Entertaining "Marriage of Figaro" to Stage

Opera companies nationwide are struggling with how to get younger music lovers interested in opera; a recent survey by the Metropolitan Opera found that the Met's audience was aging right along with the company. Survey takers and opera doomsayers needed only to attend this past weekend's performances by the Princeton University Opera Theatre of Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* to see the next generation of opera aficionados in action, cheering their classmate cast members as if they had scored the winning basket in an Ivy championship game.

Although listed as presented by the Princeton University Opera Theatre, the performances Friday and Saturday night in Richardson Auditorium were the product of a Department of Music class. MUS214, Projects in Vocal Performance, was a multi-month process of auditioning, casting, and producing an opera. *The Marriage of Figaro* was double cast last spring, students learned their roles over the summer, and the opera was staged and put together with orchestra throughout the fall. The large number of students at Friday night's performance (which was presented in English), combined with the nearly flawless efforts of the singers, indicated that the performers have been both living with their roles for quite some time and pulling their friends into their operatic webs.

The Marriage of Figaro is a long opera, and conductor Richard Tang Yuk made a conscious effort to keep things moving by employing very quick tempi. With an instrumental ensemble drawn from the ranks of the University Orchestra, Dr. Tang Yuk opened the production with a very brisk overture played cleanly, especially by the very nimble-fingered string players.

With the exception of one, the operatic leads were all students, and across the board, their exuberant and youthful approach to the roles was refreshing and enjoyable. As Susanna and her beloved Figaro, University juniors Faaria Kherani and Adam Fox were both animated and completely engaged with each other. Mr. Fox showed exceptional command of the recitative style, and Ms. Kherani's voice was refreshingly free of the vocal burdens one often hears in older singers who are trying too hard to be the role — Ms. Kherani was simply being herself with confidence and ease. Mr. Fox sang Figaro's Act I closing aria, "Non più andrai," especially well.

As Count Almaviva, senior Michael Scharff was convincing as an older man, and soprano Rachel Dunn settled in well to her role as the Countess, singing well her signature aria, "Porgi amor." Ms. Kherani and Ms. Dunn were also well matched and graceful in their third act "Sull'aria" duet.

The third couple in this operatic comedy of implausibilities, Marcellina and Bartolo, was effectively portrayed by Brenda Jin and Jonathan Britt (the one apparently non-student in Friday's cast). Mr. Britt handled the low notes of his role especially well, and Ms. Jin played her role with sauciness and vocal sparkle. Ms. Jin also presented a compelling visual image with an intricate costume and a doll-like presence onstage which drew the audience's immediate attention.

Soprano Olivia Kang sang a very comedic Cherubino, eventually paired with Barbarina, sung as a small but well-done role by Maya Srinivasan. Ms. Kang's rendition of "Non so più" was appropriately breathless, easily handled with her light soprano tone. This cast is of a generation raised on TV sitcom comedic timing, and they knew how to work the crowd. Other solid cast members included Andrew Saxe as Basilio, Stephen Pearson as the gardener Antonio, Zaafir Kherani as Don Curzio, and two Flower Maidens, Alexis Rodda and Sylvia Dee.

Designer Dale Simon's sets were simple but tasteful, giving the performers plenty of room to move onstage under David Kellett's direction. Costumes were muted greens, browns, and peaches, with an especially nice display of costuming for the chorus. Dr. Tang Yuk drew the chorus from the University Glee Club, and trained them to accurately shimmer in Mozart's chordal choral writing.

This opera was a major undertaking for the Department of Music, but one which not only provided a great number of students with a chance to excel but gave many more students an entertaining night at the opera, hopefully instilling an interest in hearing the art form again in the future.

—Nancy Plum

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After Watershed Year, Road for Laycock Leads to Bayerische Kammerphilharmonie

"Life comes at you fast." — at least that's what the insurance commercial tells us. Perhaps no one knows this better this year than Mark Laycock, whose musical life at the end of 2007 bore little resemblance to his professional activities at the beginning of that year. In January of 2007, Mr. Laycock was enjoying his 21st year as Music Director of the Princeton Symphony Orchestra while guest conducting throughout the world. Eight months later his tenure with the ensemble was over, and September found him both looking for new opportunities and reflecting on his legacy. Add a new marriage and turning fifty, and 2007 was truly a "watershed" year.

Looking back over the past 21 years, Mr. Laycock considers his greatest accomplishment with the Princeton Symphony the developing of "a flexible symphonic ensemble that communicated in a very intimate way—very uncommon for an orchestra." Having taken over the ensemble when it was very small and community based, Mr. Laycock grew with it, building on the numbers and quality of players, noting that each musical experience brought them "to a new level of deeper understanding and connection with the Princeton community." Mr. Laycock is especially proud "that the Princeton Symphony was so much more than just a symphony orchestra; it had a life, soul and a personal attachment to the audience."

Mark Laycock returns to the Princeton stage this Friday to conduct the Bayerische Kammerphilharmonie in a concert honoring the 94th birthday of scholar and philanthropist William Scheide. Friday night's Richardson Auditorium concert will feature the Kammerphilharmonie and German violinist Sarah Christian in their only U.S. performance this season.

The program, as one would expect from a concert in honor of Mr. Scheide, includes two substantial Bach works—the Violin Concerto in E Major and the "Chaconne" from the Partita in d minor for solo violin. Mr. Laycock will also conduct Schubert's Overture in B-flat, Mozart's Symphony #41, and Peter Heidrich's *Happy Birthdoy Voriotions*.

Proceeds from the concert will benefit isles, Inc., a Trenton-based community development organization with which Mr. Scheide has been involved for many years. Mr. Laycock's relationship with Mr. Scheide grew from a trip Mr. Scheide put together to see the Sequoias in California. The two musicians now spend time almost every week listening to music together, and Mr. Laycock refers to his listening partner as a "great example and a true friend," whose friendship has become "one of the highest" of his life.

As 2008 gets underway, Mr. Laycock is, as the current vernacular puts it, "in a good place," commenting that he is "the happiest he has ever been." He is especially enjoying time spent with his 11-year old son. New wife Nancy Laufer-Laycock, one of the world's foremost concert classical accordionists, has inspired Mr. Laycock to dust off his composing pencils and write a passacaglia and variations for the accordion. He expressed hope that as a result he will be able to bring more depth and human insight into the works of the composers when he returns to full-time concertizing. While Mr. Laycock is looking for a permanent conducting post, agents based in Stuttgart, Paris and Seoul keep the guest conducting appearances flowing, including next year's performance with the Stavanger Philharmonic in Norway.

There is plenty of music to make in the world, but for now, it's dinnertime in the Laycock household, and the Maestro is cooking salmon.

Mark Laycock will conduct the Bayerische Kammerphilharmonie, with guest violinist Sarah Christian, on Friday January 18 at 8 p.m. in Richardson Auditorium. Ticket information can be obtained by calling the Richardson box office at (609) 258-5000 or the Frist Campus Center at (609) 258-9220.

— Nancy Plum

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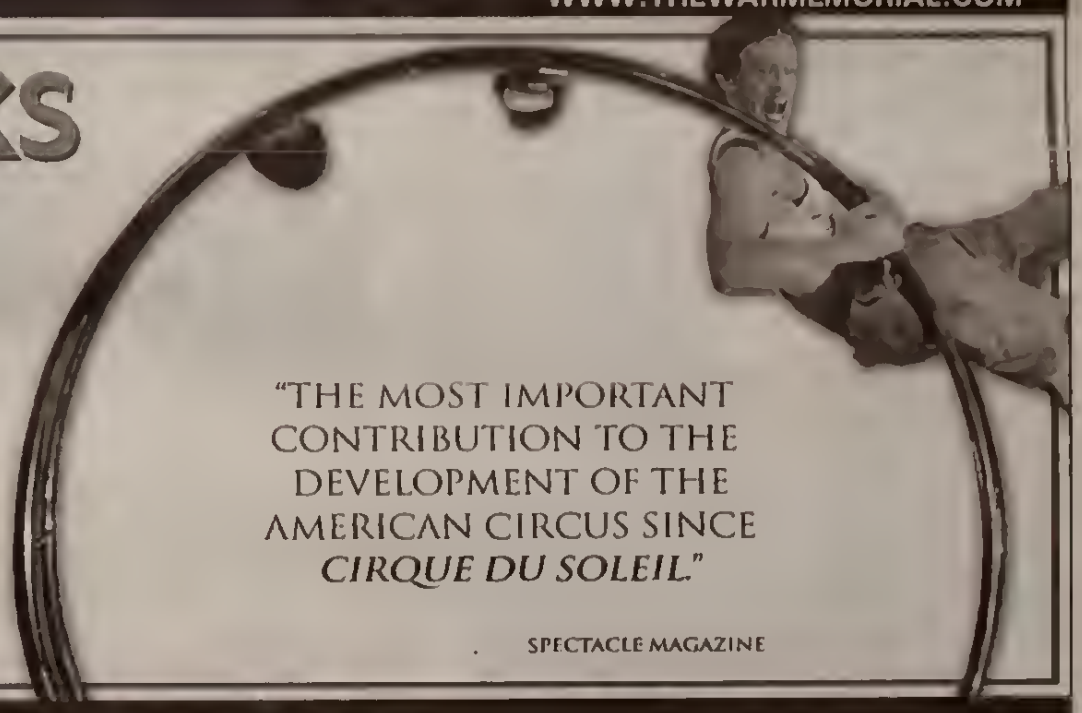

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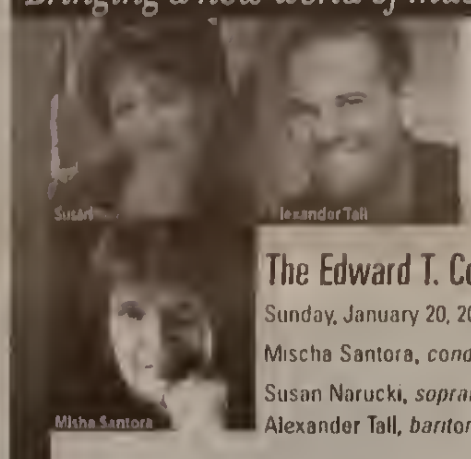

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Guitar Concerto to Have U.S. Premiere In Upcoming N.J. Symphony Concerts

A master composer for the guitar will spotlight a noted virtuoso when the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra presents Manuel Barrueco In the United States premiere of Roberto Sierra's guitar concerto *Danzas Concertantes* on Friday, February 1 at 8 p.m. at Richardson Auditorium.

The NJSO concert will also be presented on Thursday, January 31 at 8 p.m. at bergenPAC in Englewood; on Saturday, February 2 at 8 p.m. at the Count Basie Theater in Red Bank; and on Sunday, February 3 at 3 p.m. at the Community Theater in Morristown.

Lawrence Foster will conduct the program, which will also Include Mozart's stately Symphony No. 31, the "Paris," and Richard Strauss's Suite from *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme*, a Baroque-Inspired instrumental suite based on Molière's classic tale.

Ticket prices begin at $20, and may be purchased by calling (800) ALLEGRO (255-3476) or by visiting www.njsymphony.org.

Danzas Concertantes had its world premiere in Spain last May. The work, a 26-minute piece in four movements, reflects Mr. Sierra's musical attachment to his Latin American roots and is considered his most ambitious guitar concerto to date. It ranges widely in mood, from a tense, exciting opening through a melancholy second movement to a faintly sinister triple-meter Vals, culminating in a surging "rapido" movement that offers the guitar soloist ample opportunity to display his virtuosity.

The Puerto Rico-born composer Roberto Sierra has made a specialty of writing for guitar and orchestra, a genre avoided by most classical composers. His catalog includes no fewer than five pieces for guitar — or guitars — with orchestra. All but one of the works were conceived with Manuel Barrueco in mind; the composer and guitarist have enjoyed a close friendship for many years.

Mr. Barrueco is internationally recognized as one of the most important guitarists of our time, an instrumentalist possessed of uncommon lyrical gifts. The Cuban-born guitarist has appeared in the U.S. with the Baltimore and Boston Symphony Orchestras, Los Angeles Philharmonic, and Philadelphia Orchestra, among others, and internationally with many orchestras. His recording catalogue includes over a dozen recordings for the EMI label. His latest release, *Concierto Barroco*, with the Orquesta Sinfónica de Galicia and conductor Víctor Pablo Pérez, received a Latin Grammy nomination for Best Classical Recording.

Mozart was well aware of current trends and local tastes when he composed his Symphony No. 31, nicknamed "Paris" for the city where it was written. The 22-year-old composer had been sent there by his father with hopes of securing a permanent court position, and Mozart took care to include certain musical elements designed to appeal to the French. While the composer's Parisian job search proved unsuccessful, his Symphony No. 31 was warmly received in its premiere at the prestigious Concert Spirituel in June 1778.

One of the most successful American conductors to win the acclaim of European audiences and critics, Mr. Foster is the music director of the Gulbenkian Orchestra in Lisbon. He has formerly held similar posts with the Barcelona Symphony Orchestra, the Aspen Music Festival and School, the Monte Carlo Philharmonic, Jerusalem Symphony, Houston Symphony, and Lausanne Chamber Orchestra. His 2007–08 schedule in North America includes performances with the Houston Symphony and the NJSO. Abroad, he will conduct a Schumann Symphony cycle with the Czech Philharmonic, and tour Spain with Orchestre Philharmonique de Monte Carlo in May.

For more information about the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, visit www.njsymphony.org.

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Trenton's Capital Singers Plan January 27 Concert

The Capital Singers of Trenton will present "Winter Songs II" on Sunday, January 27 at 8 p.m. at St. James Church in Trenton. They will be joined by guest artist Deborah Ford and the Trenton Community Singers, a 90-voice ensemble.

The concert, a blend of classical and contemporary music featuring a selection of works from Pergolesi to Bernstein, Vivaldi to Shaw, will be conducted by Richard M. Loatman, artistic director of both groups.

Ms. Ford is the Associate Minister of Music at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Trenton. Her repertoire includes works by Handel, Mozart, Verdi, Strauss, and Ravel, among others. She will perform with the group and as a solo artist.

The Capital Singers of Trenton is a 30-voice, mostly a cappella vocal ensemble dedicated to enhancing the art of choral singing and performing patriotic selections at city and county events.

For tickets, call (609) 620-0160 or visit www.capitalsingers.org.

The St. James Church is located at 29 East Paul Avenue, Trenton.

ROMANCE IN MIND: With Valentine's Day only a month away, The Princeton Singers are planning a "musical banquet" to observe the date, on Saturday, February 9 at 8 p.m. at the Johnson Education Center at the D&R Greenway Land Trust, 1 Preservation Place. Titled "If Music Be the Food of Love," the concert will offer music about love from around the world, teaturing melodies by Monteverdi, Schumann, Saint-Saens, and Vaughn Williams, among others, and accompaniment by harpist Barbara Biggers. The evening will also include a premiere performance of a new work by composer Steven Sametz, The Princeton Singers' artistic director, and a post-concert dessert reception. Founded in 1983, The Princeton Singers have performed classical and International music ot all cultures to audiences throughout the region and world, and on National Public Radio and BBC broadcasts. The group has recorded eight CDs. Tickets are $15 for adults and $10 tor students, and may be purchased at the door or in advance by calling The Princeton Singers at (866) 846-7464.

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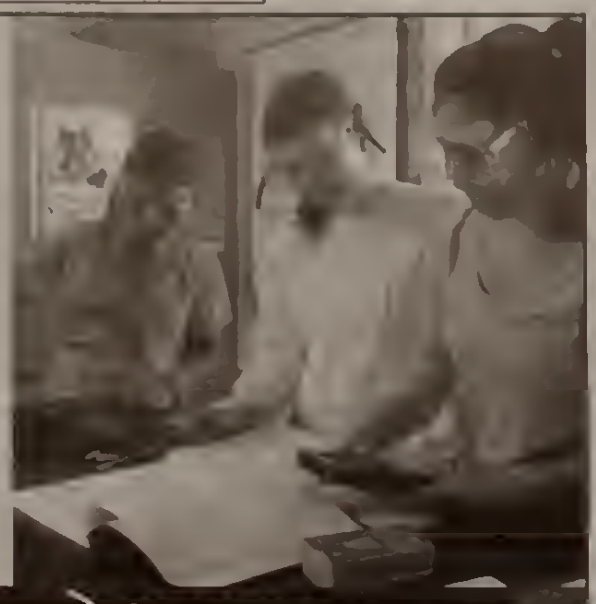

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Girlchoir Doubles the Fun With Two Winter Concerts

Breaking a 19-year tradition, the Princeton Girlchoir will present its annual winter concert in two parts this year, on Sunday, January 27 at 5 p.m. and Sunday, February 10 at 3:30 p.m. Both performances will be in Richardson Auditorium.

"This year we decided to have two different winter concerts," said Janet Perkins, PGC's Executive Director. "The Concert Choir and Cantores, our two older choirs, are partnering for the first concert in January, and in February our preparatory choirs, the Grace Notes and Semi-Tones, will present a completely different program. The fun part for the girls is that each choir has more performance time on stage. For families who may be interested in the Princeton Girlchoir for their daughters, it is the perfect time to see and hear the choirs in action!"

The January concert, titled Women in Song, will feature the Girlchoir's Concert Choir and the Cantores performing music for, by, and about women. The Concert Choir is conducted by Jan Westrick, the Cantores by Bryce Hayes.

The two choirs will be accompanied by Serena Chin and Madeline Tsai, joined by Katherine McClure on flute and Melissa Bohl on English horn.

"After spending almost 19 years helping girls to 'find their unique voice,' it seemed appropriate to present a concert celebrating the role of the feminine in music as creator, composer, subject, and performer," explained Ms. Westrick, the Girlchoir's artistic director and founder. Through the music of composers such as Kodály, Nolen, Duruflé, and Clarke, 'woman,' is classically portrayed. Eleanor Daley's *The Rose Trilogy* and Stephen Hatfield's *Barb'ry Ellen* are about love, discovered and lost. The strength of women's resilience will be celebrated with Rosephanye Powell's *Still I Rise*.

A CAPELLA ARTISTS: The Princeton Girlchoir's Concert Choir, seen here between concerts during its summer 2007 tour of Ireland, will perform with its sister ensemble, the Cantores, at the Girlchoir's annual winter concert on Sunday, January 27 at 5 p.m. in Richardson Auditorium. The concert will be the first of two winter concerts for PGC, the second taking place on Sunday, February 10 at 3:30 p.m., also in Richardson Auditorium. The Concert Choir members pictured are, in back from left, Joanna Yuhas, Megan Helm, Annie Herman, Ali Larcombe, Michele Seabrook, Nitya Sivakumar, Amanda Triplett, Nikki Kato, and Mary Christenson; and in front from left, Molly Karlin, Lindsay Spring, Sophie Guenin, and Lauren McGinley. For tickets to either concert, call (609) 258-5000.

At the end of the concert, PGC alumnae will join the choirs on stage to sing the traditional encore song, Benjamin Britten's *A New Year Carol*.

The February 10 concert, titled Young Voices United in Song and showcasing the Grace Notes and the Semi-Tones choirs, will feature music by the British composer/conductor Bob Chilcott. Mr. Chilcott came to Princeton in November 2007 for a workshop with the Princeton Girlchoir and area guest musicians.

The Grace Notes, conducted by Melissa Keylock, will present Mozart's "Laudamus te" from Mass in C Minor, co-arranged by Ms. Keylock and Jill Friedersdorf. Originally written for soprano soloist and orchestra, the work has been altered to make it accessible for young singers.

The Semi-Tones, PGC's intermediate choir, has been chosen to perform at the Eastern Regional Division of the American Choral Directors Association in February. The audience attending the February 10 concert will hear the ensemble perform the repertoire they will sing the following week in Hartford, Conn., which will include songs by Leonard Bernstein, J.S. Bach, and the local composer Michael D. Mendoza.

For concert or audition information, call the PGC office at (609) 688-1888, e-mail info@princetongirlchoir.org, or visit www.princetongirlchoir.org.

Founded in 1989 by Ms. Westrick, Princeton Girlchoir comprises five auditioned choirs of more than 200 girls ages 8 through 18 from central New Jersey and eastern Pennsylvania.

Concert tickets are $20 and $35 for adults, $15 and $30 for seniors, and $12 for students. To purchase, visit the Princeton University ticket office at Frist Campus Center; call (609) 258-5000; or visit www.princeton.edu/richaud.

Pro Musica Auditioning Singers for "War Requiem"

Princeton Pro Musica, scheduled to perform Benjamin Britten's *War Requiem* with the Westfield (N.J.) Symphony on May 3 and 4, has openings in all voice parts for volunteer singers for the concerts. Auditions are scheduled for Monday, February 11 from 7 to 10 p.m. by appointment only. There are also limited openings for professional singers.

The May concerts will mark the first performances of the *War Requiem* in New Jersey in 20 years.

Rehearsals will take place Tuesday evenings in Princeton. The performances will be in the Westfield Presbyterian Church and Patriots Theater at the War Memorial in Trenton.

For more information or to schedule an audition, call (609) 683-5122 or e-mail info@princetonpromusica.org.

Youth Orchestra to Hold Auditions on January 29

The Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey, under the guidance of Artistic Director John Enz, will hold auditions on Tuesday, January 29 at 4 p.m. at West Windsor-Plainsboro High School North.

Those wishing to register for an audition will find the necessary forms and requirements at the YOCJ website, http://www.yocj.org.

Registration is required, and the audition requirements form must be signed by the applicant's teacher and brought to the audition.

The Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey has earned a reputation as one of New Jersey's finest youth orchestras, bringing together young musicians from New Jersey and Pennsylvania representing more than 30 school districts. The orchestra's conductors are Phillip Pugh and Brian Woodward. Rehearsals are every Tuesday evening at West Windsor-Plainsboro High School North in Plainsboro.

For more information, contact Meg Chicco at (609) 275-5042 or mchicco@comcast.net.

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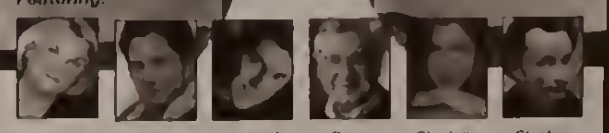
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SUBURBAN SATIRE: Princeton natives Sean, left, and Jason Glassman, are shopping their short-length independent film "Matthew" on the film festival circuit, hoping to land a spot at the Trenton Film Festival in May. Their look at suburban life offers a dark homage to Princeton.

(Photo by Matthew Hersh)

This Suburban Satire Looks Familiar: Why, Its Got Princeton All Over It!

A suburban white man driving down an endless suburban street, flipping the radio dial to what could only be some garden variety conservative talk radio show ("Bill Clinton is ruining this country, you hear me? *Ruining this country!*") when he spies a pair of youths, one black, one white, walking down the street listening to gangster rap. The suburbanite appears to be on the brink of an Angry White Man meltdown when he decides to embrace the youthful defiance, buys some gold chains, a wool cap, some shades, and becomes transformed: empowered by his new material worth.

So goes the 1990s-period short film, *Matthew*, written and directed by brothers Sean and Jason Glassman, both Princeton natives and Princeton High School graduates. A dark comedy offering a modern look at the 1990s-style "me generation" pastiche, *Matthew*, at an economical 25 minutes, takes a quick look at what happens to a dysfunctional family struck by tragedy, and their equally foolish attempt to forget about that tragedy.

The Glassman brothers, who graduated from PHS in the era their film encapsulates, have filmed a terrifying slice of suburban life, all with the Princeton backdrop. No spoiler alert necessary here, but the basic premise revolves around parents Carol and Fred (the white suburbanite in the car), and their misguided concern for their early adolescent son, Matthew, when his good friend, Christine Brownbridge, suddenly vanishes. Beginning as an amusing indictment of how the McMansion-era nuclear family deals with tragedy, like finding hip-hop, or cucumber facials, the film quickly turns into troubling portrait of death and mendacity.

Shot in Princeton, *Matthew* is replete with scenes at the Princeton Shopping Center, Princeton Battlefield, the familiar Township-style housing developments, and even deer, tagged for inventory. It's not an indictment of Princeton, however.

"We wanted to make something that was pretty twisted: something that looks ordinary, turns horrific, but then nothing comes of it," said Jason, 29. "We were looking to point to people's faults, but have a little fun with this subtle satire."

With both brothers working in the film industry in New York City (Sean is a film and video editor and Jason works in the production department of an ad agency), *Matthew* came naturally because the pair had been working together for years. Now, after about two years of writing and production, they are shopping the film at area film festivals, and hope to get a spot in the Trenton Film Festival (www.trentonfilmfestival.org) this May. With *Matthew*, the Glassmans think they have a good product on their hands.

"Every time you make a film you throw caution to the winds and you see what happens, and with this, we got some good actors, who gave some good performances, and we're definitely proud of this film," Sean, 31, said.

The filmmakers see *Matthew* as revealing bigotry and selfishness, "even in the most well-meaning, well-educated people," Sean said. "There's always some innate distrust of others and this film could be regarded as a form of social commentary — absurd, but commentary nonetheless."

Loosely based on a north Jersey missing persons case, *Matthew* focuses on the lives of the title character's parents Carol and Fred (Julie Kessler and Andrew Whitney), who seemingly worry more about themselves than they do about their son Matthew (Benjamin Kaplan), who has lost a cherished friend. They pay little attention to the community-wide anger brewing toward the perceived assailant/scapegoat: a cross-dressing convicted sex offender name Huck Hundley (Johnny Francis Wolf). Rather, as shallow as Carol and Fred are, they come close to blaming themselves, but for the wrong and most superficial reasons.

"The movie was based on the impressions given by tabloid news, a channel 7, late night news look that's horror story after horror story," Sean said. "But the more you watch it, it becomes morbid humor in the way these stories are strung along.

"This story is absolutely inspired by the news," he added.

Indeed, the real-life NBC reporter Pei-Sze Cheng (a college buddy of Jason's) reports the news throughout the movie, going from quoting stocks, to horrendous crime, to how to lose weight all in the same breath.

"If you don't put these things back into context, it can really upset you in a lot of ways," Sean said. "Without a value system, it's easy to wash your hands of this stuff."

A grim outlook it's true, but in a dark sense, a very dark sense, the Glassmans' are having fun, continuing to throw caution to the wind.

—Matthew Hersh

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Mandatory walkthrough held on January 23, 2008 9AM Proposals must be endorsed on the outside of sealed envelope Princeton Charter School is a NJ Public School and prevailing wages apply. The Board of Trustees and the Princeton Charter School reserves the right to reject any and all bids for the whole or any part and waive any informality as they deem for the interest of the school

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"Funny Stuff Circus" Due At MCCC's Kelsey Theatre

Laughter and audience participation will be in store when the touring *Funny Stuff Circus* visits Mercer County Community College's Kelsey Theatre on Saturday, February 2 at 2 and 4 p.m. The show features two internationally known circus performers, "Mr. Fish" and "Trent the Mime."

The wacky antics of Mr. Fish and Trent the Mime will delight youngsters as well as those who are young at heart with an array of stunts involving boomerangs, bubbles, beach balls, and other paraphernalia.

John James Lepiarz, aka Mr. Fish, has toured for seven years with the Big Apple Circus and appeared on HBO and on ABC's *Great Circus Performances of the World*. He has performed *Funny Stuff Circus* throughout the U.S., Canada, and southeast Asia. He is a graduate of Oberlin College and the LeCoq School of Mime and Clown in Paris.

Mime extraordinaire Trent Arterberry, aka Trent the Mime, has toured North America and Europe and appeared as a star attraction on major cruise lines. His most unusual assignment was performing mime under water with sharks and eels in the Giant Ocean Tank of the New England Aquarium.

Tickets are $8 for children, students, and seniors, and $10 for adults. To order, call the Kelsey box office at (609) 570-3333 or visit www.kelseytheatre.net.

The Kelsey Theatre is located on MCCC's West Windsor campus at 1200 Old Trenton Road.

COMIC DUO: The talented circus clown John James Lepiarz, also known as Mr. Fish, and mime extraordinaire Trent Arterberry, aka Trent the Mime, will present the comic "Funny Stuff Circus" at Mercer County Community College's Kelsey Theatre on Saturday, February 2 at 2 and 4 p.m. For tickets, call (609) 570-3333 or visit www.kelseytheatre.net.

DanceVision Auditioning For "The Secret Garden"

The ballet company DanceVision Inc. has announced that its Youth Ensemble will present the premiere of Risa Kaplowitz's full-length ballet, *The Secret Garden*, based on the classic children's book, in May. Performances will take place May 17 at 7 p.m. and May 18 at 12:30 and 4:30 p.m. at Montgomery High School's Performing Arts Center in Skillman. Auditions will take place February 2.

The story of *The Secret Garden* follows Mary Lennox, an unattractive and willful girl born in India and given over to the care of servants. The girl's life changes when her mother and father die and she is sent to live with her uncle, Mr. Craven, in Yorkshire. Dark, dreary Misselthwaite Manor is full of mysteries, including a special garden which has been locked tight for ten years. With the help of a local boy, Mary intends to uncover its secrets.

"I reread the book this past summer and felt that it would make a wonderful ballet," said Ms. Kaplowitz. "My mind was spinning with ideas of how a ballet could enhance this beautiful and timeless story. While keeping the theme of the story intact, a non-dialogue presentation of the story can provide opportunities to delve more deeply into the human and non-human characters of the story."

Since there is no ballet music score for the *The Secret Garden*, Ms. Kaplowitz spent endless hours listening to music. "If music from the two composers that I chose gave me an 'aha moment,' then I kept it for the ballet," she said. "The choice of music is the most crucial element to telling the story in dance."

For more information, call (609) 514-1600.

Winter Film Festival To Examine Iraq War

Three films spotlighting the human impact of the war in Iraq, the political maneuvering that led up to the war, and the life of Pete Seeger will be presented as part of the Winter 2008 Film Festival at the Princeton Public Library. The series is co-sponsored by the Coalition for Peace Action.

The screenings, free and open to the public, are scheduled as follows: *Alive Day Memories: Home from Iraq* today, January 16 at 7 p.m.; *No End in Sight* on Thursday, February 7 at 7 p.m.; and *Pete Seeger: The Power of Song* on Monday, March 17 at 7 p.m. All screenings will be in the Library's Community Room.

The Coalition expects to have speaker(s) and discussion after each film.

In the HBO documentary *Alive Day Memories: Home from Iraq*, producer James Gandolfini *(The Sopranos)* interviews ten soldiers and Marines who narrowly escaped death in Iraq. The "alive day," or the anniversary of a near-death encounter, forms part of the war experience for a growing number of soldiers in the war. Moderating the post-film discussion will be Patricia Radtke, chair of the CFPA Peace Education Committee.

No End in Sight, a Sundance Prize-winning film, provides a retelling of the events following the fall of Baghdad. *Pete Seeger: The Power of Song* looks at the life and career of the folk music icon and peace advocate once blacklisted for refusing to sign a loyalty oath to the United States. Bob Dylan, Bruce Springsteen, and Bonnie Raitt are among the artists interviewed.

For more information, contact the CFPA at (609) 924-5022 or visit www.peacecoalition.org.

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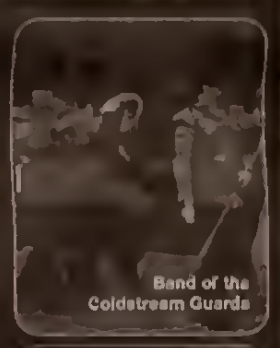
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"Pa's Hat: Liberian Legacy" Coming to Passage Theatre

Trenton's Passage Theatre will present a staged workshop of *Po's Hot: Liberion Legacy* by Cori Thomas, January 24 through January 27 at the Mill Hill Playhouse In Trenton.

Civil unrest, national heritage, and family responsibility converge In the one-act drama, which follows an elderly former ambassador and his rebellious daughter as they return to war-torn Liberia and are abducted by a child soldier.

The drama, directed by Chuck Patterson, will star Opal Alladin, Eric Lockley, Forrest McClendon, and Jasper McGruder.

Ms. Thomas, an actress and a playwright, is the daughter of a West African diplomat and a Brazilian attorney. She was born in New York City, and lived and attended school in many of the countries where her father was posted. Her plays include *My Secret Longuoge of Wishes*, which won her the first Theodore Ward Prize for African-American Playwrights in 2007.

Passage Theatre's workshop productions of new plays are productions in which the actors have rehearsed for a week, as compared to three or four weeks for a full mainstage production, with the director and playwright. Minimal sets and props are used. At the end of the rehearsal process, audiences are invited to attend a brief series of performances with the actors performing with script in hand. Audience members are invited to "talk back" to the playwright following each performance. The performances will take place at the Mill Hill Playhouse, at Front and Montgomery streets in Trenton, on Thursday, January 24 at 8 p.m., Friday, January 25 at 8 p.m., Saturday, January 26 at 8 p.m., and Sunday, January 27 at 3 p.m.

Tickets are $10. To order, call the box office at (609) 392-0766 or visit www.passagetheatre.org.

Joe Conte

Kelsey Theatre Reprising "Parental Advisory" Show

Mercer County Community College's Kelsey Theatre will present its third annual *Porentol Advisory Comedy Show* with hosts Kyrus Westcott and John Zimmerman on Saturday, January 26 at 8 p.m.

The show's headline act will be Sauce, featured in P. Diddy's *White Boys of Comedy* and MTV's *Boiling Points*, according to the hosts.

The show's other performers will include Gordon Baker-Bone of Maplewood, N.J., featured on NBC's *Stond-Up for Diversity* and named a Funniest New Jersey College Student Winner in 2006; Joe Conte of Parsippany, of the *Conte ond Kenny Rodio Show*; Chris Johnston of Linden, named a 2006 Baltimore's Funniest Person Finalist; Ryan Maher of Brick, from Uncle Vinnie's Comedy Club and the Laugh Lounge N.Y.; Joe Narvaez of Port Chester, N.Y., a performer in the New York Cringe Humor Comedy Show; and Mike Recine of Hamilton, N.J., featured at Caroline's Comedy Club.

The Hamilton band Mountain Man will also be on the program.

The brainchild of Mr. Westcott, who goes by his first name, Kyrus, and MCCC Theatre Program classmate Josiah DeAndrea, the *Porentol Advisory Comedy Show* has grown each year since its founding in 2006. The new show will offer "the best crop of comedians since we started the event three yeas ago," said Kyrus, who will serve as both host and producer for this year's show.

Tickets are $12 for general admission, $10 for students and faculty from other colleges, and $5 for MCCC students and faculty. They may be ordered online at www.kelseytheatre.net or by calling the Kelsey Theatre box office at (609) 570-3333.

The show is intended for mature audiences only; no one under 18 will be admitted.

MONKEY BUSINESS: The charm and innovative wit of ventriloquist Jay Johnson will be on display in Princeton for one night only when the 2007 Tony Award-winning entertainer brings his show, "Jay Johnson: The Two and Only!," to McCarter Theater on Friday, January 25 at 7:30 p.m. In a 30-year career, Mr. Johnson has converted generations of ventriloquist-avoiding Americans. In "The Two and Ooly" he deconstructs and demonstrates his litelong obsession. Best known for playing the schizophrenic role of Chuck and Bob on the television comedy "Soap," Mr. Johnson is recognized as one of the oatioo's foremost ventriloquists. Said The New York Post, "Johnson proves himself a flawlessly undetectable genius at throwing his voice everywhere and into everything; 'The Two and Ooly' is a marvelous illostration of how traditioo, madness, and love go into the making of an art form." Tickets range trom $37 to $43, with $7 student staoding room. To order, call (609) 258-2787 or visit www.mccarter.org. The show contains adult content.

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Thursday, January 24, 2008, 6:30PM-8:00PM

Location: Buckingham Place Assisted Living & Adult Day Services,

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Carol Olivieri, RN, Health Ministry of Princeton;
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REVIVAL MEETING: A scene from "The Old Ship of Zion," a play that revolves around a church community in Columbus, Ga., dealing with issues of identity, sexuality, family, illness and death. The work was written and directed by Natalia Naman '08 and performed by members of the Program in Theater and Dance at Princeton University's new Whitman College Theater.

(Photo by George Vogel)

THE JAILER: Osei Kwakye as the jailer in the Whitman College Theater production of "The Old Ship of Zion," a play written and directed by Natalia Naman '08. *(Photo by George Vogel)*

TALE OF LOSS: Played by Alexis Morgan in Natalia Naman's play "The Old Ship of Zion," Siblie becomes emotional as she tells her tragic tale of loss. An all-student cast made up of members of the Program in Theater and Dance are featured in Ms. Naman's senior thesis production, which was performed at the new Whitman College Theater. *(Photo by George Vogel)*

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CINEMA REVIEW

The Bucket List

Terminally Ill Patients Make a Break From Cancer Ward in Sentimental End-of-Life Movie

The paths of terminally ill Edward Cole (Jack Nicholson) and Carter Chambers (Morgan Freeman) probably never would have crossed if they hadn't ended up together in a cancer ward. Edward Cole, who is a billionaire who also happens to own the hospital, could easily have afforded a private suite. However, because his hospital has a strict policy of two patients per room, he finds himself in a room with an auto mechanic.

Their difference in social status doesn't mean much because they're both gravely ill and they've each been given the same prognosis of having less than a year to live. The two curmudgeons soon discover that they share an aversion to the idea of merely resigning themselves to their fates and living out their remaining time attached to tubes, monitors, and hi-tech machines.

Rather than capitulate to cancer, they decide to die on their own terms. They start by compiling a list of things they want to do before "Kicking the Bucket." Giving free rein to their imaginations, they come up with a list that includes getting tattoos, visiting the Great Wall of China, climbing the Pyramids, seeing the Taj Mahal, driving a race car, skydiving, climbing the Himalaya Mountains, and finding the perfect woman.

Because Ed's only visitor in the hospital is his deferential assistant, Thomas (Sean Hayes), it is clear that he has few, if any, friends and is therefore free to indulge his fantasies. However, Carter is a devoted family man and has to consider the feelings of his wife of 47 years (Beverly Todd) and their three children. However, when Edward offers to foot the entire bill for their hedonistic getaway, Carter can't resist the chance to spend his waning days in pursuit of everything he has ever dreamed of doing.

MAYBE THIS WASN'T SUCH A GOOD IDEA AFTERALL!: Terminally ill cancer patients Edward Cole (Jack Nicholson, left) and Carter Chambers (Morgan Freeman, right), judging by the looks on their faces, seem to be having second thoughts about the wisdom of fulfilling their dream to skydive.

So, ignoring doctors' orders, they leave the hospital and embark on their once-in-a-lifetime adventure with the help of Thomas, who handles all the arrangements. While they are checking off each of the items on their list; they reminisce, philosophize, and most of all, misbehave.

The *Bucket List* is a surprisingly lighthearted story for such a morbid theme. Directed by Rob Reiner, the movie co-stars Jack Nicholson and Morgan Freeman in roles they've practically trademarked. Nicholson steals the show as an adorable, bombastic bon vivant; and Freeman, as usual, portrays a sagacious man wise beyond his years.

A feel good film that transcends its subject matter and buoys one's spirits.

Very Good (★★★). Rated PG-13 for profanity, mature themes, and a sexual reference. Running time: 97 minutes. Studio: Warner Brothers.

—Kam Williams

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AT THE CINEMA

27 Dresses (PG-13 for profanity, sexuality and innuendo). Katherine Heigl stars in this romantic comedy about the frustrations of a perennial bridesmaid who has to bite her tongue when the boss (Edward Burns) she has had a secret crush on falls in love at first sight with her younger sister (Malin Akerman). Cast includes James Marsden, Judy Greer and Brigitte Bourdeau.

Aliens vs. Predator: Requiem (R for violence, gore, and profanity). There is no peace on earth this Christmas for the unsuspecting folks in the quiet Colorado town where this science-fiction sequel unfolds pitting the last surviving predator against an army of aliens in a bloody, bestial showdown. With John Ortiz, Steven Pasquale, Shareeka Epps, and Reiko Aylesworth.

Alvin and the Chipmunks (PG for mild crude humor). Combination live-action and computer generated version of the animated TV series from the sixties about a trio of mischievous chipmunks who drive their human guardian (Jason Lee) crazy while he tries to turn them into the latest singing sensation.

Atonement (R for profanity, sexuality, and disturbing war images). Romance drama, opening in England in 1935, about the budding relationship between a rich girl (Keira Knightley) and the son (James McAvoy) of her family's maid aborted when he is falsely accused of a crime by her jealous younger sister (Saoirse Ronan). Supporting cast includes Vanessa Redgrave, Brenda Blethyn, Romola Garai, and Anthony Minghella.

The Bucket List (PG-13 for profanity and a sexual reference). Oscar-winners Jack Nicholson and Morgan Freeman co-star in this bittersweet end-of-life saga as terminally-ill cancer patients who make a break from the hospital after compiling a checklist of everything they want to do before kicking the bucket. With Sean Hayes, Beverly Todd and Rowena King.

Chorlie Wilson's Wor (R for profanity, nudity, sexuality, and drug use). Tom Hanks handles the title role in this bio-pic based on the George Crile best seller about a boozing, womanizing Congressman from Texas who, in the early eighties, helped secretly fund the covert CIA operation in Afghanistan which led to the demise of the Soviet Union. With Philip Seymour Hoffman, Julia Roberts, and Ned Beatty.

Cloverfield (PG-13 for violence, terror and disturbing images). Sci-fi action thriller chronicles the harrowing ordeal of five young New Yorkers who throw a friend a going-away party the same night a monster the size of a skyscraper descends upon the city. Ensemble includes Michael Stahl-David, Mike Vogel, Lizzy Caplan, Jessica Lucas, T.J. Miller and Odette Yustman.

First Sundoy (PG-13 for profanity, sexual humor and drug references). Ice Cube and Tracy Morgan co-star in this crime comedy about a couple of ghetto gangstas who end up with more than they bargained for when their attempt to rob a church goes awry. Ensemble cast includes Katt Williams, Regina Hall, Loretta Devine, Keith David, Chi McBride, Clifton Powell and Nicholas Turturro.

The Greot Deboters (PG-13 for profanity, mature themes, brief sexuality, and the depiction of violence and disturbing images). Denzel Washington directs and stars opposite Forest Whitaker and Kimberly Elise in this drama based on fact, set in 1935, about a professor at a small black college who inspired students to form the school's first debate team and to challenge Harvard for the national championship.

I Am Legend (PG-13 for intense action and violence). Will Smith stars in this apocalyptic science-fiction adventure, based on Richard Matheson's 1954 novel of the same name, about a brilliant scientist's struggle to survive in New York City as he searches for an antidote to the man-made virus which has turned the rest of the human race into a horde of omnivorous flesh-eating mutants.

In the Nome of the King: A Dungeon Siege Tole (PG-13 for intense battle sequences). Epic fantasy adventure, based on the video game Dungeon Siege, stars Jason Statham as a revenge-minded family man-turned-warrior intent on rescuing his kidnapped wife (Claire Forlani) from the evil race of rampaging beasts responsible for the death of their son. Supporting cast includes Burt Reynolds, Leelee Sobieski, Ray Liotta, Ron Perlman, John Rhys-Davies and Brian J. White.

Juno (PG-13 for profanity, premarital sexuality, and mature themes). Coming-of-age dramatic comedy about a pregnant teen (Ellen Page) who divides her time between getting to know the father (Michael Cera) and bonding with the couple (Jennifer Garner and Jason Bateman) about to adopt her unborn baby. Cast includes Allison Janney, J.K. Simmons, and Rainn Wilson.

The Kite Runner (PG-13 for violence, brief profanity, child rape, and mature themes). Adaptation of Khaled Hosseini's bestseller about the quest for redemption of a well-to-do Afghani-American immigrant (Khalid Abdalla) who returns to his native Afghanistan during the reign of the Taliban to find his childhood friend Hassan (Ahmad Khan Mahmidzada), whom he had betrayed and left behind 20 years earlier.

Notionol Treosure: Book of Secrets (PG for mild violence). Nicolas Cage reprises his role as treasure hunter Ben Gates for another globe-trotting, action-oriented adventure. This go-round, his quest is to clear the name of an ancestor implicated in the assassination of Abraham Lincoln by finding the 18 pages missing from the diary of John Wilkes Booth's diary. Talented cast includes Oscar-winners Cage, Helen Mirren, and Jon Voight, and nominees Harvey Keitel and Ed Harris.

No Country for Old Men (R for profanity and graphic violence). Coen Brothers adaptation of Cormac McCarthy's modern-day Western about a Vietnam vet (Josh Brolin) on the run after stumbling upon several corpses, a stash of heroin, and 2 million dollars left at the scene of a grisly gun battle near the Rio Grande. Cast includes Tommy Lee Jones, Javier Bardem, Woody Harrelson, Kelly Macdonald, and Stephen Root.

One Missed Coll (PG-13 for mature themes, frightening images, terror, intense violence, and some sexual material). Shannyn Sossamon stars in this remake of Chakushin Ari, a horror film from Japan about a traumatized young woman who's afraid to answer her cell phone after several of her ill-fated friends receive messages accurately predicting exactly when and how they will die. With Edward Burns as the detective determined to crack the case.

The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything: A Veggie Toles Movie (G). Family-oriented, animated adventure about three misfit busboys who dream of ditching their dishrags to appear onstage in their restaurant's pirate-themed dinner theater only to end up miraculously traveling back in time to the 17th C. where they end up embroiled in a real-life seafaring saga.

P.S. I Love You (PG-13 for sexual references and brief nudity). Bittersweet drama adapted from Cecilia Ahern's novel about a grieving widow (Hilary Swank) who deals with her loss with the help of ten monthly messages magically delivered to her posthumously by her late husband (Gerard Butler). Cast includes Lisa Kudrow, Gina Gershon, Kathy Bates, and Harry Connick, Jr.

The Sovoges (R for sexuality and profanity). Dysfunctional family drama about the sibling rivalry which re-arises between a brother (Philip Seymour Hoffman) and sister (Laura Linney) when they both move back home to care for their senile father (Philip Bosco).

Sweeney Todd: The Demon Borber of Fleet Street (R for graphic violence). Johnny Depp stars in this adaptation of the hit Broadway musical, set in nineteenth century London, about a barber bent on revenge after being imprisoned for 15 years for a crime he didn't commit. Directed by Tim Burton, and featuring Helena Bonham Carter, Alan Rickman, and Sacha Baron Cohen.

There Will Be Blood (R for violence). Daniel Day-Lewis stars in this adaptation of *Oil!*, Upton Sinclair's classic, 1927 epic novel chronicling the life of a self-made, California oil tycoon. With Paul Dano, Kevin J. O'Connor, and Ciaran Hinds.

The Woter Horse: Legend of the Deep (PG for action/peril, mild epithets, and brief smoking). Fable set during World War II based on the children's book by Dick King-Smith, about a lonely Scottish boy (Alex Etel) who finds a magical egg which hatches a curious sea creature he raises until it grows into a towering monster he must release into the Loch Ness where it becomes the subject of a Scottish legend. Cast includes Emily Watson, Brian Cox, and Ben Chaplin.

—Kam Williams

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THERE WILL BE BLOOD
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Sun-Thurs 1:30, 4:30, 7:30 (R)

JUNO
Fri-Sat 2:35, 4:55, 7:15, 9:35
Sun-Thurs 2:35, 4:55, 7:15 (PG13)

ATONEMENT
Fri-Sat 1:45, 4:25, 7:05, 9:45
Sun-Thurs 1:45, 4:25, 7:05 (R)

KITE RUNNER
Fri-Sat 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45
Sun-Thurs 1:30, 4:15, 7:00 (PG13)

THE SAVAGES
Fri-Sat 2:10, 4:45, 7:20, 9:55
Sun-Thurs 2:10, 4:45, 7:20 (R)

CASSANDRA'S DREAM
Fri-Sat 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40
Sun-Thurs 2:10, 4:40, 7:10 (R)

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JUNO (PG13) 1:46
Fri, Jan. 18: 5:00, 7:15, 9:30
Sat-Sun, Jan. 19-20:
12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30
Mon, Jan. 21:
2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15
Tues-Thurs, Jan. 22-24:
5:00, 7:00, 9:15

THERE WILL BE BLOOD (R) 2:48
Fri, Jan. 18: 6:45, 10:00
Sat, Jan. 19:
12:00, 3:15, 6:45, 10:00
Sun, Jan. 20:
12:00, 3:10, 6:30, 9:40
Mon, Jan. 21: 1:20, 4:30, 7:40
Tues-Thurs, Jan. 22-24:
5:00, 8:15

Current Cinema

Titles and times subject to change; call theater.

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160 Nassau Street
Friday, January 18 – Thursday, January 24
Juno (PG13) Fri., 5, 7:15, 9:30 Sat.-Sun., 12:30, 2:45, 5, 7:15, 9:30; Mon., 2:30, 4:45, 7, 9:15; Tues.-Thurs., 5, 7, 9:15
There Will Be Blood (R) Fri., 6:45, 10; Sat., 12, 3:15, 6:45, 10; Sun., 12, 3:10, 6:30, 9:40; Mon., 1:20, 4:30 7:40; Tues.-Thurs., 5, 8:15

MONTGOMERY CINEMAS, (609) 924-7444
1325 Route 206, Montgomery Shopping Center
Friday, January 18 – Thursday, January 24
Atonement (PG13) Fri.-Sat., 1:45, 4:25, 7:05, 9:45. Sun - Thurs., 1:45, 4:25, 7:05
Cassandra's Dream (R) Fri.-Sat., 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40; Sun.-Thurs., 2:10, 4:40, 7:10
Juno (PG13) Fri.-Sat., 2:35, 4:55, 7:15, 9:35; Sun.-Thurs., 2:35, 4:55, 7:15
Kite Runner (PG13) Fri.-Sat., 1:30, 4:15, 7, 9:45; Sun.-Thurs., 1:30, 4:15, 7
The Savages (R) Fri.-Sat., 2:10, 4:45, 7:20, 9:55; Sun.-Thurs., 2:10, 4:45, 7:20
There Will Be Blood (R) Fri.-Thurs., 1:30, 4:30, 7:30

HILLSBOROUGH CINEMAS, (908) 874-8181
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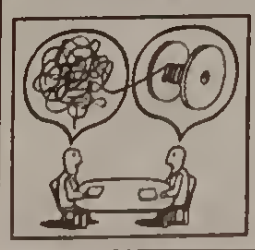
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Calendar

Wednesday, January 16

2 p.m.: Senior Resource Center's Science Café with Rutgers Prof. Edith Neimark discussing "Adventures in Thinking"; Suzanne Patterson Building. To register, call (609) 924-7108.

7 p.m.: Screening of *Alive Doy Memories: Home from Iroq*; Princeton Public Library. Free.

7:30 p.m.: Edward Albee's *Me, Myself ond I*; Berlind Theatre. Also Thursday at 7:30 p.m.; Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 3 and 8 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m.

8 p.m.: Molseyev Dance Company; McCarter Theatre.

8 p.m.: *Rent*; State Theatre, New Brunswick. Also Thursday at 8 p.m.

Thursday, January 17

12:15 p.m.: Westminster Conservatory at Nassau recital with cellist Melissa Burton Anderson and pianist Clipper Erickson; Nassau Presbyterian Church. Free.

7 p.m.: Community dialog, "The Energy Problem: Choices for an Uncertain Future"; Princeton Public Library.

Friday, January 18

Noon: Princeton Senior Resource Center Brown Bag luncheon with talk by realtor Paul O'Brien on "How to Sell Your House in Today's Market"; Suzanne Patterson Building.

7 p.m.: *Beehive, the '60s Musicol*; Bucks County Country Club, Jamison, Pa. Also Saturday at noon and 6 p.m., Sunday at 5 p.m.

7:30 p.m.: organ concert with Princeton University organist Eric Plutz; St. Paul's Church, 214 Nassau Street. Free.

8 p.m.: *Relotively Speoking*; Off-Broadstreet Theatre, Hopewell. Also Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

8 p.m.: Dance Improv, Live; All Saints' Church.

8 p.m.: Benefit concert for Isles Inc. with Bavarian Chamber Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Mark Laycock; Richardson Auditorium.

8 p.m.: *Goodbye Charlie*; The Heritage Center, Morrisville, Pa. Also Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday at 6 p.m.

8 and 10:30 p.m.: Jeff Norris; Catch A Rising Star Comedy Club, Hyatt Regency. Also Saturday at 8 and 10:30 p.m.

8:15 p.m.: Princeton Folk Music Society concert with Celtic singer-songwriter Robbie O'Connell; Christ Congregation Church.

Saturday, January 19

3 p.m.: Scotland's Royal Scots Dragoon Guards and Great Britain's Coldstream Guards Band; State Theatre, New Brunswick.

6:30 p.m.: 20th Annual Eden Family of Services "Eden Dreams" dinner gala; Hyatt Regency Princeton.

7 to 10 p.m.: Meg Hanson Duo; Hopewell Valley Bistro & Inn, Hopewell.

8:30 p.m.: CJ Vinson acoustic rock band; Small World Coffee, 14 Witherspoon Street.

Sunday, January 20

3 p.m.: Steinway Society musicale with pianist Jennifer Tao; Recital Hall, Jacobs Music, Lawrenceville.

3 p.m.: Film, *Tickets*; Dorothea's House. Free.

4 p.m.: Princeton Symphony Orchestra's second annual Edward T. Cone concert; Richardson Auditorium.

4 p.m.: Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday celebration; War Memorial, Trenton.

6 p.m.: Nassau at Six concert with violinist Lisa Rautenberg and pianist Gretchen Saatoff; Nassau Presbyterian Church. Free.

Monday, January 21
Recycling

7:30 p.m.: Royal Scots Dragoon Guards and Band of the Coldstream Guards; McCarter Theatre.

Tuesday, January 22

7:30 p.m.: Edward Albee's *Me, Myself ond I*; Berlind Theatre. Also Wednesday and Thursday at 7:30 p.m.; Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 3 and 8 p.m., Sunday at 2 and 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 23

7 to 9 p.m.: Fifth Annual Summer Trip and Program Fair; Princeton High School.

7:30 p.m.: Princeton Environmental Commission; Room A, Township Municipal Complex.

7:30 p.m.: U.S. 1 Poets Invite Series readings by Judy Rowe Michaels and Edwin Romond; Princeton Public Library.

Thursday, January 24

6 to 8 p.m.: Arts Council of Princeton's Artists Potluck dinner; conTEMPORARY Arts Center, Princeton Shopping Center. For information, call Michael LaRiccia at (609) 924-8777.

7 p.m.: The Kaplan Series with Cephas & Wiggins and Honeyboy Edwards; Patriots Theater at the War Memorial, Trenton.

8 p.m.: Dave Tropp acoustic band; Small World Coffee, 14 Witherspoon Street.

8 p.m.: Passage Theatre's staged workshop of *Po's Hot: Liberion Legocy*; Mill Hill Playhouse, Trenton. Also Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday at 3 p.m.

Friday, January 25

3 and 6 p.m.: *Go, Diego, Go Live! The Greot Jaguar Rescue* with Dora the Explorer; State Theatre, New Brunswick. Also Saturday at 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m.

7 p.m.: *Beehive, the '60s Musicol*; Bucks County Country Club, Jamison, Pa. Also Saturday at noon and 6 p.m., Sunday at 5 p.m.

7:30 p.m.: Ventriloquist Jay Johnson's *Joy Johnson: The Two ond Only!*; McCarter Theater.

8 p.m.: *Goodbye Chorlie*; The Heritage Center, Morrisville, Pa. Also Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday at 6 p.m.

8 p.m.: *Relotively Speoking*; Off-Broadstreet Theatre, Hopewell. Also Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

8 and 10:30 p.m.: Artie Fletcher and Chips Cooney; Catch A Rising Star Comedy Club, Hyatt Regency. Also Saturday at 8 and 10:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 26

7 to 10 p.m.: Dick Braytenbah Trio with Tony Mennella; Hopewell Valley Bistro & Inn, Hopewell.

7:30 p.m.: West Windsor Film Series screening of *Grbovico: The Lond of My Dreoms*; West Windsor Branch, Mercer County Library. Free.

8 p.m.: *Porentol Advisory Comedy Show*; Kelsey Theatre, Mercer County Community College.

8 p.m.: New Jersey Symphony Orchestra; Patriots Theater at the War Memorial, Trenton.

8:30 p.m.: Rackett classic rock band; Small World Coffee, 14 Witherspoon Street.

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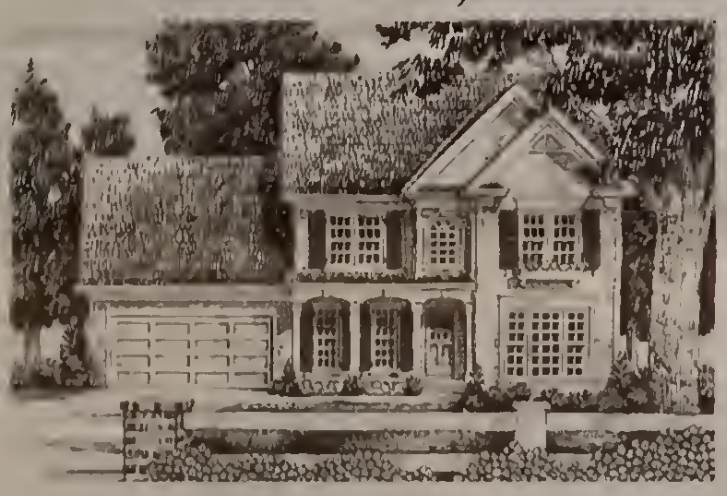

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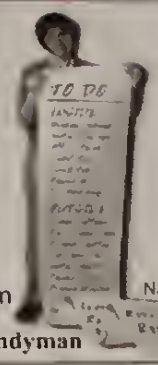

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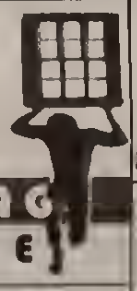

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Sports

With Berry Back in Starting Lineup, PU Women's Hoops Races Past Penn

Jessica Berry was on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean this past October when the Princeton University women's basketball team started preseason practice.

The junior, who had been the starting point guard for Princeton the past two seasons, was studying abroad in London after leaving the Tiger hoops program last spring.

Shortly before leaving for London, though, Berry's decision to leave the sport took a different turn when Courtney Banghart took the reins of the Tigers, replacing Richard Barron.

The new coach reached out to Berry over the summer, letting her know the door was open to return to basketball if she had a change of heart.

Last month, Berry returned to campus and rejoined the Tigers. Undergoing a crash basketball conditioning program, Berry regained enough of her game to make brief appearances in Princeton's losses to Vanderbilt and Monmouth.

Last Saturday, the reed-thin Berry got the start as Princeton hosted Penn in the Ivy League opener for both teams and the world seemed right again for the struggling Tigers.

Playing 37 minutes, the 5'7 Berry scored 12 points, capably running the point and helping Princeton go into overdrive as it raced past Penn 69-57 to snap a six-game skid and improve to 4-13.

Afterward, a beaming Berry clearly enjoyed getting the chance to be back in the Ivy fray.

"I'm just glad to be back on the team," said Berry, an All-Ivy Rookie Team pick in 2005-06 when she helped the Tigers tie for the league title.

"I'm enjoying having the chance to put on the jersey again. I've never lost to Penn so it's always fun to go against them. It's great rivalry between the schools, going back to the guys."

RETURN ENGAGEMENT: Princeton University women's basketball point guard Jessica Berry dribbles up the floor in a game last season. Berry, who spent the fall studying abroad in England and just returned to the Tiger program last month, got her first start of the season last Saturday against Penn. The junior guard made the most of the chance, scoring 12 points to help Princeton top the Quakers 69-57 in the Ivy opener for both teams. Princeton, now 4-13, is on exam break and won't be in action again until it plays at Dartmouth on February 1 and at Harvard on February 2. (Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)

While Berry focused on her studies in England, she did work in some conditioning to help ease her transition once she was back in her hoops jersey.

"I played basketball with some lanky British boys who were pretty thin," said Berry with a laugh. "I also ran a marathon when I was over there."

That base of fitness, though, hardly prepared her for the rigors of college basketball.

"I've been running in a straight line for a really long time, running side-to-side was pretty foreign for me," said Berry. "After a week of two-a-days, I was feeling in basketball shape again."

Berry has developed a good feeling for Princeton's new coaching staff.

"The new coaching staff has been great; they make the game fun and enjoyable to play," asserted Berry.

"It's all about communication with them. Not only are they really good about explaining to us what they want, they are listeners too. They give us the time of day when you come to the office."

It hasn't taken Berry much time to reconnect with her teammates.

"I just want to be able to connect with my teammates on transition," explained Berry.

"I want to know when they are going to run and how they like to catch the ball. I've been practicing with them, so I've been able to get back into the groove."

Princeton head coach Banghart thought inserting Berry in the starting lineup could help the Tigers find a groove.

"Basically we knew we had to score quickly," said Banghart. "Caitlin O'Neill has been out two days with the flu and we figured she'd be out of synch. We told Jess you have to get the ball and push it and that's what she did today."

Banghart also knew that Berry brought experience and hunger to that assignment.

"She's such a gamer; she's tough on herself," added Banghart. "She hasn't been with the team for six months and she wants to do whatever she can to contribute right away. I knew that and I could play off that and we could score quickly."

Princeton's big scorer in the win over Penn was precocious freshman Addie Micir, who lit up the Quakers for a career-high 22 points.

BOMBS AWAY: Princeton University women's basketball star Addie Micir lofts a jumper in recent action. Last Saturday, Micir was on target as she fired in a career-high 22 points to help Princeton top Penn 69-57 in the Ivy League opener for both teams. Micir was later named as both the Ivy Rookie of the Week and Ivy Player of the Week for her sparkling effort.

(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)

"Penn had her on a visit and they wanted her bad," said Banghart of Micir who was later named as both the Ivy Rookie of the Week and Ivy Player of the Week for her sparkling effort.

"Her dad went there and I've been in her ear all week saying 'Addie who are you rooting for? There's no state pride in this game.' I think that loosened her up. We recognize that the kid can really play and she really helped us tonight."

The Tigers got help from Meg Cowher, who scored 18 points after a sluggish first half, while Whitney Downs keyed the defensive effort with five steals and six rebounds.

"Meg was a little off in the first half," said Banghart. "Every possession is a new possession to our team and she is a fighter. Downs wants to be our defensive captain and we told her she needs to make her slides and be in the passing lanes."

The win was important on many levels for a Princeton team that came into the evening mired in a six-game losing streak and is now on exam break.

"I think what's critical about tonight is that you have to win your Ivy League home games if you want to be in this fight," said Banghart, whose team will next be in action when it plays at Dartmouth on February 1 and at Harvard on February 2.

"Also the fact that we hadn't won in six games, I don't know if our kids realized it but I did. I'm so happy we got this win; it came down to execution and riding that current."

Berry, for her part, is looking to do whatever she can to help the Tigers have a special ride this winter.

"Coming back to the team I just want to do anything I could to contribute, whether it was getting the water bottles or being a manager," said Berry.

"Any time I come out on the court I want to play my heart out of them; I'm honored to be their teammate again."

—Bill Alden

PU Men's Hoops Blows Lead in Lafayette Loss, Takes 12-Game Losing Streak Into Exam Break

After he drained a last-second three-pointer to force overtime with visiting Lafayette last Wednesday, Princeton University men's basketball star Kyle Koncz turned to the home fans and let out a howl of joy.

Koncz's outburst was a release of the pent-up frustration as Princeton seemed on the verge of snapping a program-record 11-game losing streak.

But minutes later, Koncz quietly walked off the Jadwin Gym floor with his head down as Princeton came up short again, falling 76-71 to the Leopards before a crowd of 1,971.

Afterward, a subdued Koncz said he thought his long distance score had Princeton on the winning track.

"Any time you hit a big shot like that to tie it up, I definitely thinks it swings momentum," said Koncz, who scored a team-high 15 points as the Tigers fell to 2-12.

"There were some plays in overtime when it was a one or two point game, rebounds we didn't get that swing the momentum back. When you have momentum on your side, you have to capitalize."

Earlier in the evening, the momentum was all on Princeton's side as the Tigers used a 14-0 run midway through the first half on the way to building a 43-26 halftime lead.

But in a season which has seen the Tigers find a variety of ways to lose, Princeton produced perhaps their most agonizing collapse of the season.

Lafayette cut the Tiger margin to 50-49 as it started the half with a 23-7 run. The Tigers responded by pushing their lead back up to 59-53 with 7:05 remaining. Lafayette, though, outscored Princeton 11-2 to grab a 64-61 lead before Koncz's heroics led to overtime.

In the extra session, the Tigers held leads of 66-64 and 68-67 before Lafayette pulled away for the win.

First-year Princeton head coach Sydney Johnson acknowledged that the loss to Lafayette may have been the toughest to swallow

"It's a heartbreaker," said Johnson. "These guys gave a tremendous effort. It's been consistent that we haven't been able to get 40 minutes all the way through. It's a tough one."

Even as his team squandered its lead, Johnson still thought a win was in the cards.

"As a competitor, I didn't really feel like it was slipping away," said Johnson.

"We didn't just execute the way we should. When we were up by six, frankly I felt good even though we weren't doing what we were supposed to. We just couldn't close it out."

In Johnson's view, the Tigers can learn how to close things out.

"When you have a bonus and it's late in the game, you take it to the rim," explained Johnson.

"We have schemes not so much for set plays but for shots. We work on these decisive moments at practice; basketball IQ can certainly be learned."

But Johnson admits that those drills can only take a team so far. "I think every game we've had, there has been a moment where it's just competition," said Johnson.

"The X's and O's, the scouting reports, those things are great but at some point you have to compete and we didn't have it tonight."

With his players currently on exam break and not in action until January 27 when the Tigers host Division II Dominican, Johnson knows the long wait for the next game won't be easy for his charges.

"As a player, when I have weaknesses, I want to get out there," said Johnson, a two-time first-team All-Ivy League selection during his Princeton playing career.

"As a player, for me losing a game like this, it would be very, very, very hard to wait for the next game. I feel sorry for the guys because we are going to have to wait for the next game."

Johnson is confident that the team can get on the right track once its back in action.

"I love this program and this institution," asserted Johnson. "I believe in these young men. I don't want to be anywhere else in the world right now. I just hope we can get a 'W' and start to feel good about ourselves and get into Ivy League play. It's going to be exciting; it's a new season for us."

Koncz, for his part, believes the team will need to absorb some on-court lessons during the exam break in order to produce some excitement during league play.

"It is frustrating, losing all these games, seeing us put out effort and it's there to win the game," said Koncz.

"It's happened before with the Manhattan game; we have to learn from that. it happens once, it happens twice. At some point, we have to learn how to win a game and how to play with a lead. We are going to be in games like this in February and March."

—Bilt Alden

STILL LOOKING: Princeton University men's basketball senior star Kyle Koncz looks for an opening last Wednesday against Lafayette. Koncz hit a last-second three-pointer to force overtime but the Tigers ultimately dropped a 76-71 decision to the Leopards. The loss dropped Princeton to 2-12 as the Tigers extended their program-record losing streak to 12. Princeton, which is currently in exam break, will look to break the skid when it hosts Division II Dominican on January 27.

(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)

IN A BIND: Princeton University men's basketball head coach Sydney Johnson shows his frustration during the tigers' 76-71 overtime loss to visiting Lafayette last Wednesday. The Tigers blew a 17-point halftime lead as they extended their program-record losing streak to 12. (Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)

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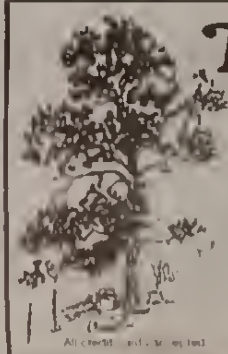

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Tiger Women's Hockey Edges Brown 2-0 To Salvage a Weekend of Missed Chances

For much of last weekend, the Princeton University women's hockey team was frustrated as it failed to cash in on one scoring opportunity after another.

Last Friday, Princeton outshot visiting Yale 43-26 only to lose 5-3 as the Bulldogs made their shots count.

A day later, the Tigers built a 25-8 edge in shots against Brown after two periods but went into the third period locked in a scoreless tie.

But when it looked like the Tigers could be headed for a lost weekend, Tiger senior captain Marykate Oakley converted on a power play with 13:06 left to give Princeton a 1-0 lead.

With seconds remaining, Princeton's other senior captain, Lizzie Keady, notched an empty-net goal to give the Tigers a final margin of 2-0 as they improved to 8-8-4 overall and 6-6-1 in ECAC Hockey League play.

Princeton head coach Jeff Kampersal wasn't surprised that the game with Brown turned into a dogfight even though the Bears came into the evening with just two wins on the season.

"Our league is very good, all the teams from top to bottom are very good," said Kampersal, whose team ended up outshooting Brown 41-17. "We don't expect any nights off."

Noting that his team was a bit off effort-wise early against Yale on Friday, Kampersal was happy with the intensity he saw in the Brown game.

"I thought we worked really well tonight," said Kampersal. "I thought in the first period against Yale, we got outworked by them. That's the first time in a while that I thought we got outworked. Today it was hard to get goals, Nicole Stock is an awesome goalie. It's not easy but it's not from lack of effort."

With Princeton going on a 17-day break for exams before its next game, Kampersal said the win over Brown was vital.

"It's important," asserted Kampersal, whose team isn't in action until January 29 when it plays at Quinnipiac.

"You can't underestimate the value of two points; this is huge. It's actually painful that we have another break here."

Kampersal readily acknowledges how huge Oakley was for the Tigers both on Saturday and through the season.

"She's been good all year," said Kampersal of the forward from Buffalo, N.Y. who leads Princeton with 20 points on seven goals and 13 assists.

"She's one of the better offensive players we've had here. She can make something out of nothing. On that particular sequence, our power play got done what it wanted to accomplish. There a nice low shot by Maddie [Endicott] and MK was there for the rebound."

The play of senior defenseman Katherine Dineen helped Princeton rebound from Friday's setback.

"Dineen is awesome; that's the one word I would say for that kid," added Kampersal of Dineen who had all of Princeton's three goals in the loss to Yale.

"She is sick as a dog, coughing up a lung and she was superior out there today with her skating ability. She was just blowing by people; it was fun to watch."

With Princeton currently sitting fourth in the ECAC Hockey League standings, Kampersal is hoping his club will be a team to watch after it gets back in action.

"I hope we ramp it up down the stretch and get firing on all cylinders," said Kampersal.

"We are getting shots, we are outshooting people now. We need to make a concerted effort to get the puck to the net in traffic so the goalie can't see our shot."

—Bill Alden

OAKLEY SHADES: Princeton University women's hockey star forward Marykate Oakley glides up the ice in recent action. Last Saturday, Oakley notched the game-winning goal in Princeton's 2-0 win over visiting Brown. The victory improved the Tigers to 8-8-4 overall and 6-6-1 in ECAC Hockey League play. *(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)*

ZONE COVERAGE: Princeton University junior defenseman Katherine Dineen stakes out a position in front of the goal in a game earlier this season. Last Friday, Dineen erupted for three goals but it wasn't enough as Princeton fell 5-3 to visiting Yale. A night later, Dineen spearheaded a strong defensive effort as the Tigers blanked Brown 2-0. Princeton is currently on exam break and will return to action when it plays at Quinnipiac on January 29. *(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)*

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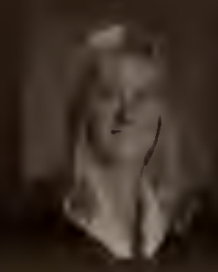

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PU Sports Roundup

PU Squash Star Siebert Wins Constable Cup

Princeton University women's squash star Amanda Siebert won the Constable Cup title last week in the annual competition held at Jadwin Gym.

Siebert topped Trinity's Tehani Guruge 9-6, 5-9, 9-3, 10-8 in the championship match.

It marked the second straight year Princeton won the title as Siebert's classmate, Neha Kumar, took the crown in 2007.

The Tigers are currently on exam break and will resume regular season play with a match at Penn on January 30.

PU Women's Track Prevails at Fordham Meet

Winning four events and placing second in seven others, the Princeton University women's track squad took the team title at the Fordham Kick-Off Meet held last Friday at the Armory Track & Field Center in New York City Friday.

Princeton's 127 points through 18 events were one-half point more than second-place Rutgers.

The Tigers took both the first- and second-place spots in two events Friday. In the 3,000 meters, sophomore Alexa Glencer had the winning time of 10:04.13, while senior Heather Iatauro was second in a time of 10:09 flat. In the pole vault, both junior Jess Kloss and senior Courtney Regan cleared winning heights of 11 feet, 5¾ inches to earn the top two spots.

Princeton's other two winners came from underclassmen in the 60-meter hurdles and in the long jump competition. Freshman Bianca Mathabane's impressive time of 8.84 seconds won the hurdles while sophomore Aundeah Kearney's winning long jump mark was 17 feet, 9¾ inches.

Tiger teams also took second place, and the eight team points that came with it, in both relays contested Friday. The mile relay saw Leanne Bellar, Libby Bliss, Katherine Sirico and anchor Agatha Offorjebe finish a close second behind UMES in 3:55.87 while the two-mile relay group of Avigail Kifer, Aparna Swaminathan, Alexe Smith, and Amanda Hudson was also second in 9:35.37.

Offorjebe was also second in the 200 meters in a time of 25.31 while Bliss, a former Princeton High star, was second in the 1,000 meters in a time of 3:01.08. Junior Melissa Swigert was also a second-place finisher, running 2:18.98 in the 800 meters.

The Tigers will host the Princeton Relays on January 26.

Tiger Men's Track Excels at Penn State

The Princeton University Tiger track team produced some solid performances as four athletes won events at the annual Penn State Relays at the Nittany Lions' Horace Ashenfelter Track last Saturday.

Included in those victories were a pair of athletes who provisionally qualified for March's NCAA championship meet. Sophomores Justin Frick and Ian Fox both cleared 2.14 meters (7 feet, ¼ inch) in the high jump, a meet record in addition to the provisional qualifying mark.

Princeton also won a pair of events on the track. Senior Kurt Kuehne continued a strong indoor season in the middle distances by winning the 1,000 meters in a time of 2:25.37, nearly two seconds better than the next collegiate runner. Meanwhile, sophomore Ben White won the mile. His time of 4:15.51 edged out the second-place time by just .03 second for the eight laps.

Junior Alex Pessala had yet another victory in the weight throw Saturday with a toss of 63 feet, two inches, just off the NCAA provisional qualifying mark.

The Tigers are next in action when they host the Princeton Relays on January 26.

PU Hockey's Sherry Helps US Win Gold

Princeton University women's hockey freshman defenseman Sasha Sherry helped Team USA win gold at the IIHF Under-18 Women's World Championship last weekend in Calgary.

The U.S. team went 5-0 in the tournament and defeated Canada in the title game.

The team breezed through pool play with 11-0 wins over Russia and Switzerland and a 6-2 win against Sweden. That put the U.S. into the semifinals where it downed the Czech Republic 8-0 before meeting Canada in the title game. In that title game, the U.S. team jumped out to an early lead en route to a 5-2 win over the host team.

The 6'0 Sherry appeared in all five games for the U.S. team and notched a goal in the team's opening win over Russia and picked up a pair of assists in the tournament, one against the Czech and one against Sweden.

Sherry, the lone collegiate player on the U.S. roster, will rejoin her teammates on campus this week and will be back in the Princeton lineup when the Tigers resume their schedule on Jan. 29 at Quinnipiac.

HIGH FIVE: Princeton University men's hockey freshman star Mike Kramer heads up the ice in recent action. Last weekend, Kramer scored five points to help Princeton win at Yale and Brown and extend its winning streak to five. On Friday, Kramer had a goal and an assist in the Tigers' 4-3 win over Yale. A night later, he chipped in two goals and an assist as the Tigers topped Brown 6-2. Kramer was named the ECAC Hockey League Rookie of the Week for his performance. The 19th-ranked Tigers are 10-8 overall and first in the ECACHL standings with an 8-4 league record. Princeton is currently on exam break and is next in action when it plays at Robert Morris on January 29.

(Photo by Bill Allen/AU SportAction)

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PHS Girls' Hockey Hurt by Inconsistency; Hopes to Find Rhythm During Busy Week

The Princeton High girls' hockey team brought in 2008 with a bang.

PHS started the year with a 6-2 win at Upland Country Day on January 5 as Gabby Vukasin scored three goals and Kate Carreno added two.

Last Sunday, though, the Little Tigers couldn't build on that triumph as they fell 4-1 to Summit in a game played at Bayonne's Rich Korpi Rink.

PHS first-year head coach Jeff Schneider was frustrated by his team's step backward which saw its only goal come from Carly Ray.

"Summit was tougher than us; they were more aggressive," said Schneider, whose team moved to 3-5 with the loss to Summit.

"I understand they haven't won a game in three years or something like that. They played hard."

Things were made harder for PHS on Sunday since it was missing the services of such stars as Vukasin, Fiona Mahon, Maddie Sturm and the Thompson sisters, Blair and Haley.

In the Upland game, PHS got a lift from backup goalie Olivia Bayles and sophomore star Vukasin.

"That was a good game; Olivia got her first start in goal and she made some big saves that galvanized us," asserted Schneider.

"Our team has had trouble coming out early and strong. When Olivia made those saves; it got everyone going. Gabby turned it on and everyone started to feed off of that."

The Little Tigers have also fed off the contributions from emerging stars Carreno and Sturm.

"From what I understand, Carreno and Sturm didn't play a lot last year," said Schneider. "They are getting time this year and they are giving us a lift."

Schneider prides himself on getting the most out of his roster. "I emphasize team," said Schneider. "Every person from one to 20 is going to help us at some point. Everybody has to be ready."

With PHS facing a busy slate of games over the next week, the team's depth should come in handy.

"Before Christmas, it was a game and then a week off and then a game," said Schneider.

"We're playing consistently now; we're in the meat of our schedule. We have Portledge this Wednesday at Baker and they are tough. We then play at Princeton Day School on Friday and then we're at Upland on Sunday and at Pingry on Tuesday. We'd better do it now."

In Schneider's view, his team has what it takes to get into a winning groove. "I'm looking for effort," said Schneider. "I think our skill is there. When we give a good effort, we can play really well. We are going to have some home fans and we look forward to their support."

—Bill Alden

Young Providing Strong Inside Presence As PHS Boys' Hoops Looks to Progress

Matt Young and his teammates on the Princeton High boys' basketball team started last week on a major high.

With the PHS gym packed and rocking, the Little Tigers pulled away from local rival Princeton Day School 65-41 on January 7.

Senior forward and captain Young contributed eight points as PHS used a 16-0 run in the fourth quarter to put the game away.

A night later, though, the Little Tigers started the game against visiting Notre Dame on the wrong side of a 13-1 run. Later in the half, the Irish put together a 12-5 run as they jumped out to a 31-15 halftime lead.

In the third quarter, Young was a force in the paint as the Little Tigers outscored Notre Dame 19-15 to tighten up the contest. The Irish, however, took command down the stretch on the way to a 64-42 contest.

While PHS appeared to have some tired legs in the wake of their emotional win over PDS the night before, Young wouldn't use that as an excuse for the loss to Notre Dame.

"We came out in the first half wanting to win so badly that we forgot how to do it," said Young, who scored five points in the loss to the Irish. "We just have to take it step by step, basket by basket."

In Young's view, the loss to Notre Dame could serve as a valuable lesson as PHS looks to turn things around.

"This is a setback," said Young, who absorbed another low moment as PHS fell 60-45 to undefeated Trenton last Friday to move to 3-6 on the season.

"It teaches you that you can't let your highs get too too high or your lows get too low. You have to shake off this game and get back to work like it didn't happen."

Young is confident good things can happen this winter for PHS, who hosts WW-P/N on January 18 before playing at Steinert on January 22.

"We seem to be getting better and better every game," said Young. "Sometimes we have a step back but our young guys like Skye [Ettin] are really stepping up: it looks good."

Playing with those young players in summer league ball is paying off for the Little Tigers.

"We played in the summer league and that helped," said Young. "Practice always helps and it was good to play with guys who hadn't played before. We had a lot of freshmen on the JV last year. It's a good chance to bond together. Still it's nothing like CVC competition."

Young, a star tight end/defensive end for the PHS football team, prides himself on competing hard for the ball for the Little Tigers.

"I focus on getting possessions anyway I can," said the 6'4 Young. "Whether it's rebounding or getting on the floor or blocking passes."

As the team captain, Young is trying help the team compete hard collectively.

"I'm trying to help everyone get to the right level," said Young. "I want to make sure we are running our stuff and sticking to our style of basketball."

The influence of new head coach Jason Carter has helped the players develop a hard-working style.

"He pushes us to work hard but everyone is into it because they know the benefits," said Young. "He plays to our strengths and he understands us."

If Young can keep up his strong play, PHS should experience some more highs as the season unfolds.

—Bill Alden

INSIDE PRESENCE: Princeton High senior forward Matt Young goes up for a shot in recent action. Last Friday, Young chipped in eight points but it wasn't enough as PHS fell 60-45 at undefeated Trenton to move to 3-6 on the season. In upcoming action, the Little Tigers host WW-P/N on January 18 before playing at Steinert on January 22. *(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)*

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Stuart Hoops' Bowman Making Dad Proud As She Makes Sudden Impact for Tartans

As a starting freshman guard for the Stuart Country Day basketball team, Amber Bowman is facing plenty of challenges in adjusting to the high school level.

"It's more running; it's more plays," said Bowman. "I'm adjusting to it."

But Bowman is dealing with another issue that most freshmen don't have since the Stuart coach is her father, Tony Bowman.

That transition is also going well as the younger Bowman is learning to respond to her often vociferous father as player rather than a daughter.

"It's fun; I don't think of him as my dad," said Bowman. "When he is instructing us, he's just coach. He's instructing us to make us better as a team."

Bowman is following those instructions well, averaging 14.0 points a game through Stuart's first eight contests.

Last Friday, Bowman chipped in 15 points as Stuart went across Great Road to top rival Princeton Day School 55-44.

Bowman said the clash with the Panthers had the intensity befitting the long-time rivalry between the schools.

"They pressured us; we pressured them," said Bowman. "We were forced to run our plays and play as a team."

After PDS put together a 7-0 run at the end of the second quarter to cut a double-digit Stuart lead to 25-20 at the half, Bowman and her teammates knew they needed to turn up the pressure.

"At the half, we said we had to play better defense; we had to step it up," recalled Bowman. "When we played the right defense; they couldn't do anything with it."

Coach Bowman saw defensive intensity as the key to the win for his club.

"We were letting them go by us in the first half," said Bowman, whose team fell 66-46 to Lawrence last Monday to move to 7-2 on the season.

"We're right across the street from each other so everyone wants to play hard. We needed to pick it up and I think we did."

Bowman likes the way his daughter is picking up things in her debut season.

"She thinks a step or two better than we were last year," said Bowman. "She brings athleticism; she's able to finish and hit the jumper. She is going to the basket and looking for the open player. She's averaging four or five assists a game so that complements everything."

The coach, though, concedes that he has faced some challenges in guiding his daughter.

"It's sometimes difficult; she takes what I say personally because I'm dad," said Bowman. "She's looking at me as coach; that's what we're doing now. It took us a while to get that point but we are there now."

Bowman is getting his points across to front court performers Sarah Schulte and the Passano sisters, Alex and Caroline.

"Sarah did a great job; what she needs to do now is to finish," said Bowman, referring to Schulte's fine work in containing PDS freshman star Tiffany Patterson for most of the game.

"Her defense has stepped up and she's starting to score. The Passanos at the '3' and '4' are getting rebounds and finishing. Caroline hit two or three jumpers in the corner."

But Bowman acknowledges that it is his corps of guards, featuring his daughter, Diamond Lewis, and Jasmine Smarr that jump start the Tartans.

"I have guards who can bring the ball down and pass it," said Bowman.

"I have Diamond and Amber running the point at any given time. Last year, I only had Diamond running the point. Now I get Amber running the point so you can't double-team Diamond."

With Stuart at 7-2 for the first time in recent memory, Bowman is more than excited about how things are going.

"I don't just like it, I love it," said Bowman, whose club hosts Rutgers Prep on January 15, Pennington on January 17, and Princeton Day School on January 22. "We're running well; we're scoring well. We have been playing hard; the practices have been good. The freshmen have a big learning curve. They are a smart team and they want to work together."

The younger Bowman, for her part, is enjoying working together with her back court partners.

"We have been playing with each other for a little bit; we're molding together as a high school team," asserted Bowman.

"We lost the first game but we hadn't had many practices. As the season goes on, we are getting together."

—Bill Alden

QUICK STARTER: Stuart Country Day freshman guard Amber Bowman races up the court in recent action. Bowman, the daughter of Stuart head coach Tony Bowman, has made a sudden impact for the Tartans averaging 14.0 points a game so far in her debut season. Stuart, now 7-2, hosts Rutgers Prep on January 15, Pennington on January 17, and Princeton Day School on January 22. (Photo by Bill Alden/NJ SportAction)

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PDS Girls Hoops Showing Battling Spirit; Putting Team On Track for Winning Season

It was midway through the second quarter and the Princeton Day School girls' basketball team looked like it was about to get run out of its gym last Friday by visiting Stuart Country Day.

PDS trailed the once-beaten Tartans 25-13 and was having trouble dealing with Stuart's up-tempo style.

But senior guard Hannah Epstein wasn't about to let the Panthers go out with a whimper, hitting two straight shots to key a 7-0 run that brought PDS to 25-20 at the half.

In the third quarter, Stuart outscored PDS 18-10 and it looked like a rout was finally on. PDS freshmen Tiffany Patterson and Lea Brown, though, found a rhythm down the stretch to help the Panthers keep fighting to the end.

While her team ultimately ended up on the short end in a 55-44 loss, PDS first-year head coach Jessica Katz was happy with the battling spirit displayed by the Panthers.

"I'm very proud of them; we were very much in this game," said Katz.

"They kept working hard and they kept their heads up. That's what they have been doing all season."

In Katz's view, her team's sloppiness with the ball in the third quarter proved decisive.

"We made some mistakes," acknowledged Katz. "We turned the ball over under our basket five or six times; that's 10 or 12 points and that's the game."

Katz liked the game she got from Epstein, who ended the day with 14 points and did a fine job dealing with the Stuart pressure.

"Hannah pretty much beat Diamond [Lewis] every time she took it to her," asserted Katz.

"She always gives us a full day's work. Hannah sets the tone for the team and the others follow suit. Her leadership takes us a long way."

Freshman star Patterson followed Epstein's lead as she battled to the end, hitting some big baskets down the stretch to end up with 16 points.

"We just had trouble getting Tiffany the ball; she pretty much had every member of their team guarding her when she got the ball," said Katz.

"As a freshman, that's a lot to handle. I think she did a good job of figuring out how to play her game. It just took a while for her to get her shots falling."

Katz sees a lot more shots falling for her improving club. "It's a much more positive direction than we have been heading in the last few years," said Katz, whose team hosts Princeton High on January 16 before playing at Timothy Christian on January 18 and Rutgers Prep on January 19.

"They are working so hard; they are a good basketball team. For a team that won only six games last year; it feels really good."

With the Panthers at 6-6 after a 53-50 win at Manville last Monday, the team is right on track to accomplish its main objective this winter.

"Our goal — and it's a very realistic goal — is to have a winning season," said Katz.

"Today, no matter who we had on the floor, we had a strong team. They gave their best effort today and there is still a long season ahead of us. Teams step on the floor and they don't expect us to be fighting like that. I think it bodes well."

—Bill Alden

ON POINT: Princeton Day School girls' basketball head coach Jessica Katz makes a point in a team huddle during a recent game. Under the guidance of the first-year head coach, the Panthers are off to a 6-6 start, having already matched last season's win total. The Panthers will look to keep on the winning track as it hosts Princeton High on January 16 before playing at Timothy Christian on January 18 and Rutgers Prep on January 19. (Photo by Bill Alden/NJ SportAction)

With Fiori Providing Intensity and Heart, Hun Girls' Hoops Back on Winning Track

In Cara Fiori's first two years with the Hun School girls' basketball program, the team suffered few defeats.

The Raiders went 20-7 two seasons ago and followed that up with a 23-5 mark last winter.

This season, Hun picked up where it left off the last two years, cruising to a 7-1 start.

Over the last two weeks, though, Fiori and her teammates got an unwelcome taste of losing as they dropped five straight games coming into last Saturday's game against visiting Blair.

While Hun lost some tight games to such formidable teams as Allentown Catholic, North Hunterdon, and Peddie during the skid, Fiori acknowledged that the Raiders had also stumbled in some winnable games.

"We've played some tough teams but we also lost to teams we should not have lost to," said Fiori. "We all have our hearts there but we were down in some games that we should not have been."

It didn't take long for Fiori and the Raiders to show Blair that their hearts were in it as Hun raced to a 15-0 lead. The Raiders never looked back in cruising to a 71-26 victory.

The Raiders were determined to put Blair away early. "We had lost five games in a row so it was good to come out strong today," said Fiori, who chipped in 12 points in the win with Emily Gratch scoring 16 and Morgan Cawley adding 14. "We needed this win; it was important."

Hun relied on its trademark stifling defense to get back on the winning track. "Defense is always there for us," said Fiori. "We always say offense wins games but defense wins championships."

In Fiori's view, Hun gave a championship effort in its 49-46 overtime loss to perennial Prep A titleist Peddie earlier in the week.

"It's getting closer and closer every time," asserted Fiori." It was a great game; we all thought we had it and then it went to OT. Hopefully we'll be playing them two more times this year in the MAPL and the states."

While Hun head coach Bill Holup has been frustrated by his team's recent struggles, he was happy with effort he was getting from his players.

"We've been competitive in just about every game," said Holup, noting that his team's 53-33 loss to Germantown Academy was the team's only lopsided setback in the losing streak. "We are competitive with just about everybody in the state. It's a matter of taking care of the ball."

Holup was happy to see his team get into a nice offensive rhythm in the win over Blair.

"We've just been missing a lot of shots in those close games," said Holup. "We definitely had a height advantage over Blair today. We didn't want to settle of the outside shot; we got it inside and got the higher percentage shots."

Hun is looking to Fiori to be a presence both inside and on defense. "She really stepped up," said Holup.

"She worked out a lot in the fall and played AAU ball in the offseason. Her game has gotten much better. She's been guarding some of the other team's smaller guards and that helps her with lateral movement. She is so hard to guard because she is so long."

Although Hun was unable to break its long losing steak against Peddie, Holup feels a breakthrough is in the cards.

"It's just frustrating because we are so close," said Holup, whose team picked up a big win last Monday when it edged Immaculate Heart 38-32 to improve to 9-6.

"Sometimes you don't get a lucky break. These girls are working hard enough that I hope we will get the lucky break down the line."

With Hun having been a perennial runner-up in the MAPL and state Prep A tourneys in recent years, Holup is looking for some good fortune come tournament time.

"We expect it to pay off in February when we play the MAPL and the state tournament," said Holup, whose team plays at Hunterdon Central on January 19. "We have to learn from this instead of just taking a loss here or there. We have to improve."

Fiori, for her part, believes the team has the chemistry that will allow it to keep learning. "All of the girls are real close," said Fiori.

"We are best friends on and off the court. It's always good to have a really nice team."

—Bill Alden

IN THE PAINT: Hun School girls' basketball star Cara Fiori powers into the paint in a game earlier this season. Last Saturday, Fiori scored 12 points to help Hun rout Blair 71-26 and snap a 5-game losing streak. Last Monday, Fiori and the Raiders kept on the winning track as they edged Immaculate heart 38-32. In upcoming action, Hun, now 9-6, plays at Hunterdon Central on January 19. (Photo by Bill Alden/NJ SportAction)

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Hun

Boys' Basketball: Sterling Melville had a big game in a losing cause as Hun fell 74-68 to Peddie in overtime last Saturday. Melville poured in a game-high 28 points as the Raiders moved to 6-8 on the season. In upcoming action, Hun will host Academy of New Church on January 16 and Solebury on January 18 before facing Apex Academy on January 19 in the Big Apple Classic.

Swimming: Princeton resident Connor Bowman led the way as Hun edged St. Benedict's 84-83 last Saturday. Bowman won the 200 freestyle, the 100 backstroke, and helped the 400 free relay team to victory. Hun has home meets with Blair Academy on January 16 and Ranney School on January 18.

Lawrenceville

Boys' Basketball: Leonard Hayes had a big game but it wasn't enough as Lawrenceville fell 54-50 at Mercersburg Academy last Sunday. Hayes poured in 20 points as the Big Red moved to 6-5 on the season. In upcoming action, Lawrenceville hosts Hill on January 16 and Blair on January 19.

Girls' Hockey: Princeton resident Payson Sword came up big as Lawrenceville topped Millbrook 3-0 last Monday. Sword scored two goals with Christine Natoli notching one as the Big Red posted their first victory of the season. Lawrenceville hosts the Gilmour School on January 19 and 21.

PDS

Boys' Basketball: Kenny Holzhammer had another big game but it wasn't enough as PDS fell 93-80 at Bound Brook last Saturday. Holzhammer fired in 23 points with C.J. Martino adding 15 and Mike Shimkin chipping in 14. The Panthers, now 9-4, play at Timothy Christian on January 18 before hosting Bishop Eustace on January 19.

Boys' Hockey: Despite a hat trick from senior star Clint O'Brien, PDS fell 5-4 to Moses Brown last Sunday in Providence, R.I. Skye Samse scored the Panthers' other goal as they moved to 7-3 on the season. PDS hosts ANC on January 17 and Bergen Catholic on January 22.

Girls' Hockey: Georgia Travers notched the lone goal for PDS as it fell 7-1 to Millbrook (N.Y.) last Saturday. The Panthers, now 3-5, host Lansdale Catholic (Pa.) on January 16.

HANDS DOWN: Princeton High boys' hockey senior star forward Jon Naylor controls the puck in recent action. Last Friday, Naylor scored four goals and had two assists to lead PHS to a 9-6 win over Robbinsville. The Little Tigers, now 3-9, face Hightstown on January 18 at Mercer County Park before starting play in the Mercer County Tournament on January 21.

(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)

HOLDING THE FORT: Hun School boys' hockey goalie Travis Potts makes a save in recent action. Last Friday, Potts recorded 36 saves but it wasn't enough as Hun fell 3-0 to Notre Dame. The Raiders, now 3-5, host Pingry on January 16 and Morristown-Beard on January 18 before starting play in the Mercer County Tournament on January 21.

(Photo by Bill Allen/NJ SportAction)

PHS

Girls' Basketball: Freshmen Laurel Kasel and Shelbee Randall scored eight points apiece as PHS got routed 89-21 by undefeated Trenton last Friday. The Little Tigers, who fell to 0-10 with the loss, play at Princeton Day School on January 16 and WW/P-N on January 18 before hosting Steinert on January 22.

Swimming: Ismail Bouzaine-Ayari, Alex Zantal, Andrew Gallagher, Elizabeth Cava, and Bred Dewey all won individual events as PHS topped Robbinsville 110-60 in a coed meet last Thursday. The Little Tigers host Ewing on January 17 before swimming at Hopewell Valley on January 22.

Wrestling: Corey Marsh's win at 119 pounds was the major highlight as PHS fell 52-9 to Lawrence last Friday. PHS wrestles at Nottingham on January 16 and hosts Hightstown on January 17. On January 19, the Little Tigers host a quad meet with Hamilton, North Plainfield, and Spotswood.

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LEGALFORUM

SELLING YOUR HOME? FIVE TIPS FOR A SMOOTH CLOSING

Selling your home? Want to avoid some potential problems at closing?

Here are a few tips.

1. **Check on Permits for Home Improvements:** If you ever made home improvements to your residence, check to make sure building permits from your municipality were properly issued for the repairs or improvements. If permits were issued, confirm that the work was subsequently inspected and approved. Often, homeowners believe that if they do the work themselves no permit is needed. This is not always the case. Buyers frequently require sellers to show that proper permits were obtained for repairs or improvements to the home and that the permits were "closed out". If the homeowner didn't obtain a permit and one was required, or if the work performed was not approved by the municipality, a new inspection by the appropriate municipal building code official may be necessary - and penalties may be imposed. Be aware, however, that sometimes completion of an improvement may cause an increase in the homeowner's real estate tax assessment.

2. **Obtain Certificate of Occupancy:** Some municipalities, but not all, require a Certificate of Occupancy as a prerequisite to transfer title to a homebuyer. A municipal inspector will inspect the home and then issue a report. If the report indicates building code violations, the selling homeowner must correct them prior to transferring title. In certain situations, the buyer may be permitted to assume responsibility for correcting violations.

3. **Obtain Certificates for Smoke Detectors, Carbon Monoxide Detectors and Fire Extinguishers:** Homeowners are required to have smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors and a portable fire extinguisher properly placed within the home prior to sale. Certificates from the municipality for each of these are required at closing. Proper installation of these devices and an early inspection will avoid any surprises at closing. If a Certificate of Occupancy is required by the municipality in which the home is located, approvals for the smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, and fire extinguisher will be included with that certificate.

4. **Terminate Draws on Homequity Loans/Lines of Credit:** Homeowners frequently forget that their homequity loan or line of credit is secured by a mortgage on their home. In order to properly transfer title of the home to a buyer, the homequity loan/line of credit must be terminated and the mortgage cancelled of record at closing. This means the homeowner should not draw on the line of credit immediately prior to closing because this may make it difficult for the lender to determine the outstanding balance.

5. **Provide a Clean House for Buyer's Final Walkthrough:** Often overlooked, but significant, is the physical condition the seller leaves the premises when the seller vacates. If the seller runs short of time to clean, the seller may want to consider utilizing a cleaning service. Buyers viewing a clean home during their final walkthrough may be less inclined to find fault with the condition of the home and more likely to overlook one, if found. This type of last minute issue can sometimes be the cause of extended negotiations at the closing table.

These are just a few tips to help the homeowner prepare for a smooth closing. Frequently the homeowner's real estate agent and/or attorney will assist the homeowner in addressing these issues.

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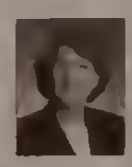

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Local Sports

Dillon Youth Basketball January 12 Results

In action last Saturday in the 4th/5th grade boys' division of the Dillon Youth Basketball League, Shihan Yu scored seven points to lead the Kings in an 18-17 win over the Spurs. In other games in the division, the Suns topped the Mavericks, 30-17 as Sam Smallzman scored eight points. Thomas Wood and Owen Lindenfelder added six in the win while Paul Deamer had eight points in the loss.

Mike Dowers and Nicholas Baughan scored eight points each as the Lakers topped the Trailblazers 30-23. Robert Mooney had 11 points in the loss. The Clippers topped the Sonics 25-13 as Michael Murray and Christian Schade scored eight points apiece. Marques Henderson had eight points for the Sonics. Oscar Vik scored 10 points to lead the Rockets to a 28-21 win over the Jazz. Thomas Moore had 12 points for the Jazz.

The boys' 6th/7th grade division saw Matthew Vieten score nine points and Alec Jones add five as Seton Hall topped Rutgers 24-22. In other games in the division, Connecticut topped Syracuse 34-19 as Elliot Golden led the way with 10 points. Ethan Dunbar had eight points in the loss.

West Virginia topped Villanova 28-20 with Marc Stern and Matt Vasseur scoring eight points apiece. Pittsburgh topped Notre Dame 41-14 as Jeremy Goldsmith led the way with 15 points. St. John's topped Georgetown 28-16 as Lior Levy had nine points. Colin Frawley added seven and Chris Glazer had six in the win.

In the boys' 8th/9th grade division Princeton Amoco topped Caliper Farms, 49-32 as Aaron Thomas poured in 25 points and Alex Gunstensen added eight. Luke Cordonnier had 11 points in the loss. In other games in the division, Woodwinds topped Iano's 38-34 as Ryan Meier scored 12 points and Reid Pittman added seven. Princeton Pettoranello topped Princeton PBA, 28-17 with Jeff Batt scoring 13 points and Sam Cohen adding five.

In games in the 4th/5th grade girls' division, Conte's topped Vincent Baldino and Brothers 18-4 as Elisa Kostenbader had eight points and Julia Ryan added six. Princeton Shopping Center topped Mason, Griffin and Pierson 8-4 as Sinclair Meggitt scored four points.

The 6th-9th grade girls' division saw Franklin and Alison Orchestra top MackCali as Kate Kerr scored 17 points and Lucy Guan added 12. In the division's other game, Princeton Orthopedics topped GR Murray 21-7.

Princeton Rec Department Offering Squash Clinic

The Princeton Recreation Department is offering a squash clinic for players of all skill levels beginning January 20.

The program is open to youth and adult residents 10 years old and older. Beginners will be taught in a clinic-style format while more experienced players will compete in a round-robin tournament.

The sessions will be held on Sunday afternoons from 12:30-2 p.m. at Jadwin Gymnasium on the campus of Princeton University.

There are a limited number of spots available in this program. The clinic is open to Princeton residents and nonresidents that attend school in Princeton. Nonresidents may be added later if space is available. For more information, please call the Princeton Recreation Department at (609) 921-9480.

PGSA Softball League Starting Registration

Registration is now open for the Princeton Girls Softball Association's (PGSA) upcoming 2008 season.

The program will include the following leagues: a T-Ball Division–5- and 6-year-olds; Rookie Division–7- and 8-year-olds; Minor Division–9- and 10-year-olds; Major Division–11- and 12-year-olds; and a Junior Division 13-15-year-olds.

All girls wanting to play in the minor and major divisions will he required to attend evaluations which will take place in early March. The purpose of the evaluations is to make the teams fairly balanced.

The fees for the divisions are as follows: T-Ball-$30 if paid before February 22 and $45 thereafter; Rookies-$65 before February 22 and $100 thereafter; Minors-$85 before February 22 and $100 thereafter; Majors-$85 before February 15 and $100 thereafter; Junior-$95 before February 15 and $110 thereafter.

The team uniforms are included in the registration fee; jerseys, shorts, visors, and socks will be provided for all players.

The PGSA is planning to hold free clinics with those programs to take place in February through the March.

Team practices are scheduled to start the first week of April with regular season games beginning in mid-April and running to Memorial Day.

Rookies will play and practice on Tuesday and Thursday. Minors will play and practice on Monday, Wednesday and/or Friday, Majors will play on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and/or Saturday mornings. All games will be scheduled to start at 6 p.m. on week nights or 9 a.m. on weekends. T-ball will play on Sundays at 3 p.m..

BANNER DAY: Princeton youth soccer players, from left, Alison Frieder, Adi Debiche, Emma Karp, and Jessica Frieder enjoy the moment after helping the U.S Junior Girls' Soccer team to a gold medal at the recently held Pan Am Maccabi games in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The junior girls' squad included players, ages 15-17, from California, Illinois, Florida, Connecticut, Ohio, New York, Maryland, and New Jersey. The U.S. topped Venezuela in the championship match to take home the gold.

Coaches and assistant coaches are needed and parents are encouraged to volunteer for those roles. In addition, the league is seeking young adult umpires and welcome boys and girls 11 and older to apply. The league pays the umpires on a game-by-game basis.

For more information and application forms, send an e-mail to Paul Gray at PGray@starcite.com or paul_gray@verizon.net or contact him via phone at (609) 683-5393.

Princeton Little League Holding Registration

The Princeton Little league baseball program is currently holding registration for its 2008 spring season.

The league is a recreational youth sports program open to children ages 5-12 who meet the league residency requirements living in Princeton Borough or Township. The program is an age specific program that emphasizes skills development.

Players ages are calculated for little league from April 30th. The league ages are as follows: T-ball 5-6, Instructional 6-7, B Minor 7-9, A Minor 9-11, and Majors 11-12. Children need to be at least 7 years old by April 30th to play in B Minor (player pitch). 8 year olds play in B Minor, 10 year olds play in A Minor and 12 year olds play in the Majors.

The T-ball program costs $95 and Instructional and above costs $155. Please register online at the league website at www.princetonlittleleague.com

PG Girls' Lacrosse Holding Registration

Princeton Girls' Lacrosse (PG Lax) is holding registration for the 2008 spring season from January 1-20..

PG Lax will have three team levels–3rd/4th, 5th/6th, and 7th/8th grade, and the season will run from early March to early June. The registration fee is $295, which includes all league and club fees and a uniform.

Registration forms can be downloaded from the PG Lax web site (PGLax.com) with hard copies available at the Princeton Recreation Department.

PG Lax is also offering an eight-week clinic for girls in kindergarten through 2nd grade to be held in April and May. That program cost is $80. For more information on the programs, call Aaron Burt at (609) 240-4033.

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Clubs

The **Princeton Chapter No. 459 of AARP, Inc.**, will meet this Friday, January 18 at 1:30 p.m. in the assembly room at the Kingston Presbyterian Church. Bill Roufberg will present a program titled "Highlights of U.S. Presidents' Wives and Children."

The public is invited. Refreshments will be served.

For more information, call Virginia Wolf, president, at (609) 655-7684.

The **Central Jersey Orchid Society** will meet this evening, January 16 at 7:30 p.m. at Princeton Airport, 41 Airpark Road. The speaker will be Ken Mier, who will discuss Catasetum Orchids, their care and culture.

The Central Jersey Orchid Society meets monthly, on the third Wednesday of each month. For more information, visit www.centraljerseyorchids.org or e-mail joel.greenberg2@verizon.net.

The **Central Jersey Dance Society** will host an Argentine Tango Milonga and workshop on Sunday, January 27 at the Suzanne Patterson Center. The workshop will begin at 6 p.m., the dance at 7:30 p.m. Admission for the workshop or dance will be $15; for both, $25.

For more information, call 609-945-1883 or visit www.centraljerseydance.org.

The **Delaware Valley Poets** will hold their poetry workshop nights in 2008 on the third Wednesday of each month at the Lawrence Library, Route 1 South at Darrah Lane, at 7:30 p.m. The meeting date is a change from prior years, when the group met on Thursdays.

Those attending the workshop are asked to bring 12 to 15 copies of the poem they wish to discuss.

Poetry readings will be held every second Monday at 8 p.m. at Barnes & Noble, Marketfair.

The **Princeton Recorder Society** will meet on Tuesday, February 12 at Kingston Presbyterian Church, 4565 Route 27, Kingston, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Socializing will begin at 7 p.m.

The conductor will be Sheila Fernekes.

All recorder players and their guests are welcome. There is no charge for first-time visitors.

For more information, call (609) 393-3762 or visit www.princetonrecorder.org.

Boris Godunov will be the topic of a presentation by Caryl Emmerson, Ph.D. at the 10 a.m. meeting of **55PLUS** on Thursday, January 24 at the Jewish Center of Princeton.

Prof. Emmerson, chair of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literature at Princeton University, will describe the University's world premiere of the Pushkin-Meyerhold-Prokofiev production of *Boris Godunov*. It was performed during April, 2007 after six months of collaboration among the schools of Music, Slavic, Theater and Dance, and Architecture.

Prof. Emmerson is the author of *The Life of Musorgsky* (1999), *M. M Bakhtin, Problems of Dostoevsky's Poetics* (1984), and, with Michael Holquist, *The Dialogic Imagination: Four Essays by M. M. Bakhtin* (1981). She is also the author of many papers on Russian and Slavic writers and subjects.

Toastmasters Club 4139 will meet on Monday, January 28 at the Mercer County Library, 138 Hickory Corner Road, East Windsor, at 7 p.m. The meeting will offer attendees an opportunity to learn about public speaking by observing and evaluating members delivering speeches. Guests are welcome.

Toastmasters International is a leading non-profit dedicated to effective oral communication. For more information, call Jim Samuel at (732) 605-1362 or visit www.toastmasters.org.

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"Unity is not merely a condition resulting from a sense of mutual goodwill and common purpose, however profound and sincerely held such sentiments may be...

"... Unity is a phenomenon of creative power, whose existence becomes apparent through the effects that collective action produces and whose absence is betrayed by the impotence of such efforts...

"However handicapped it often has been by ignorance and perversity, this force has been the primary influence driving the advancement of civilization, generating legal codes, social and political institutions, artistic works, technological achievements without end, moral breakthroughs, material prosperity, and long periods of public peace" — Excerpt from "*Century of Light*" by the Universal House of Justice (the world governing body of the Baha'i Faith).

- The central belief of the Baha'i Faith is the unity of mankind.
- Baha'is are followers of Baha'u'llah.

The Baha'is of Lawrenceville, Princeton and Hamilton Township conduct classes each Sunday for children and adults and these are open to people of all ages and faiths.

For more information about classes and the Baha'i Faith, call Wendy Kvalheim at 609-683-8929 or go to the web at www.bahai.org.

Sunday classes are from 9:30 to 11:30 am at the Lanning School, 1925 Pennington Road, (Rte. 31) just south of the entrance to College of New Jersey. All are welcome. Please join us.

FOSTER BAHA'I SCHOOL

Advice for daily living
Family Advice Column:

New Year – New You

By the Rev. Peter K. Stimpson

The Rev. Peter K. Stimpson

QUESTION: *All this hubbub about New Year's! As if a New Year could make a big difference. I'm 55 and set in my ways. Isn't it true that you can't teach an old dog new tricks?*

ANSWER: Unless you're dead, you can change. The real intent is to think of New Year's as a wake-up call to the goal of a "New You". Actually, it is a "Better You", building upon past efforts and present strengths, rather than starting from scratch and inventing a new person. Try to remember that the pursuit of maturity and happiness is a PROCESS, not a PRODUCT.

So, why not take this New Year's as an opportunity to take stock of who you are, and what issues upon which you would like to gradually work.

Do you have a temper? Then try to express your anger calmly and with sensitivity, instead of holding it in until you explode or letting it leak out in sarcastic snipes.

Do you have trouble sharing your feelings? Then try to open your heart so as to let others in, not feeling the pressure to speak with Shakespearean elegance, just being yourself. Those who love you are not looking for a Pulitzer Prize winning essay, just a window into your soul.

Do you wear a mask? Then try to stop hiding behind what you think will make people like you, and realize that the real you is the real treasure.

Do you drink too much? Then try to control your drinking, or, if your family lovingly tells you that your drinking has caused them much pain, then seek treatment so as to get the albatross of alcoholism off your back.

This Wellness column is funded through the generosity of a grant from the J. Seward Johnson, Sr. Charitable Trusts. If you would like Father Stimpson to answer a question of yours on family life, daily living or emotional health, you can write to him at: Trinity Counseling Service, 22 Stockton Street, Princeton, NJ 08540. Trinity Counseling Service provides clinical or pastoral counseling on a sliding fee scale for all who need help and support. Phone Trinity Counseling Service at 609-924-0060 to set an appointment.

Obituaries

Catherine C. Courage

Catherine Constant Courage, 56, of Princeton, died January 8 after a long illness.

A graduate of Boston University, she lived in Massachusetts for more than 30 years, first in Beverly, then in Boxford.

She began work as a graphic artist for the North Shore Weekly newspapers and was creative services manager at the Eagle Tribune newspaper when illness forced her to retire and move to Princeton in 2005.

A longtime member of the Second Congregational Church in Boxford, she loved music and the visual arts, Shakespearean theater, bird-watching, gardening, and travel. Most of all, she loved spending time with her two children.

Daughter of Grace R. Constant and the late Richard Constant, she is survived by her daughters, Ariel Kate Courage of Princeton and Susan H. Suero of St. Petersburg, Fla.; a brother, Thomas Constant of Port Jefferson, N.Y.; and a sister, Susan Jennings of Princeton.

A memorial service was held January 13 at Nassau Presbyterian Church.

Memorial donations may be made to the University Medical Center at Princeton Hospice Program, or the Princeton Arts Council.

Arrangements were under the direction of The Mather-Hodge Funeral Home.

Joseph H. Petrozzini

Joseph H. Petrozzini, 81, of Monroe Township, formerly of Princeton, died January 7 in the Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, New Brunswick.

Born in Newark, he grew up in Princeton before moving to Kingston 52 years ago. He attended Princeton High School and graduated from Pennington Prep School, playing football throughout his four years in high school. He attended Colgate University where he continued his football career and later played semi-pro ball for the Trenton Huskies.

He was a United States Army World War II veteran.

Mr. Petrozzini was a successful entrepreneur with a number of ventures including a direct mail order business that specialized in collectible items and lithograph prints. He was the past president of the National Picture Framers Association.

He loved to travel and was an avid salt water fisherman.

Son of the late Harry Patrick and Anna Fucci Petrozzini, he is survived by his wife of 55 years, Elizabeth C. McGovern Petrozzini; four sons, Douglas, Jeff, Scott, and Chuck; a daughter, Judy Clement; a brother, James Petrozzini of Chicago, Ill.; two sisters, Joan Bradford and Judith Petrozzini; and 13 grandchildren.

The funeral was January 11 at the Mather-Hodge Funeral Home. A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated at St. Paul's Church, followed by burial in St. Paul's Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, Church Street Station, P.O. Box 780, New York, N.Y. 10008-0780; or to The Parkinson Alliance, P.O. Box 308, Kingston, N.J. 08528-0308.

Rose K. Stankay

Rose K. Stankay, 86, of Lawrenceville, died January 9 in the University Medical Center at Princeton.

Born in Pittsburgh, Pa., she resided in Lawrenceville and Avon by the Sea. She was a member of Trinity Episcopal Church, Princeton.

Daughter of the late Peter and Rose Squiller Kain, wife of the late Joseph S. Stankay, and sister of the late Samuel K. Kain of Princeton, she is survived by a son and daughter-in-law, Roger and Zuzanna L. Stankay of Hamilton.

The funeral service was January 11 at the Mather-Hodge Funeral Home. Burial was in Princeton Cemetery.

Adeline B. Pinelli

Adeline B. Pinelli of Atlanta, formerly of Princeton, died January 8.

Predeceased by her parents, Giacomo and Giovanna Bruno, and by her husband, Edmund, she is survived by a son, Edmund of Atlanta; a daughter, Diane Kirkwood of Plano, Texas; a sister, Marie Bruno of Keyport, N.J.; two brothers, Anthony Bruno of Hazlet, N.J. and Pat Bruno of Little Silver, N.J.; and four grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated January 12 at St. Paul's Church. Interment followed in Princeton Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Health Care Ministry of Princeton, P.O. Box 1517, Princeton 08542.

Arrangements were by The Kimble Funeral Home.

Religion

The Jewish Center of Princeton's "Lunch and Learn" lecture series is continuing this month and next. Talks with artists, writers, politicians, educators, and other scholars are scheduled for the third Wednesday of each month, October through May. Preceded by lunch at noon in the social hall, the programs generally conclude by 1:20 p.m. The lectures are open to the public.

Today, January 16, Stephen D. Solomon, director of graduate studies at NYU's Department of Journalism, will discuss the landmark 1963 case of Abington School District v Schempp, in which the United States Supreme Court ruled that state sponsored prayer and Bible reading was a violation of the Constitution. Mr. Solomon has written for Fortune, The New York Times Magazine, The New Republic, and other publications, and is the winner of several national awards for journalism. A specialist in First Amendment law, his most recent book is *Ellery's Protest: How One Young Mon Defied Tradition ond Sporked the Bottle Over School Proyer.*

On February 20, Princeton University Professor of Anthropology Lawrence Rosen will present "A Brief Stroll Through Arab Society and Culture." An adjunct professor of law at Columbia Law School, Prof. Rosen is the author of several texts about Islam.

For more information, call The Jewish Center at (609) 921-0100.

St. Paul Roman Catholic Church, 214 Nassau Street, is holding a parish mission given by the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, a congregation located in New York City, Honduras, and England, which was founded for a return to the authentic Capuchin way of life and the renewal of the Catholic Church with their work focused on the poor and youth. The mission will be held at 7:30 p.m. each evening from January 28 to January 31. In addition, morning talks will be offered after the 8:15 a.m. mass each day that week, and a collection of canned goods for the poor will take place each evening.

A parish mission marks a time of intense prayer and special preaching, offering a time for new beginnings with the church, family, friends, and God. People of all denominations as well as those with no church affiliation are welcome.

For more information, call St. Paul Church at (609) 924-1743.

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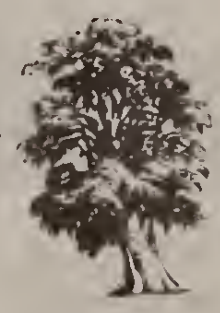
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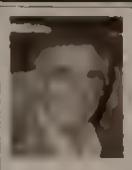
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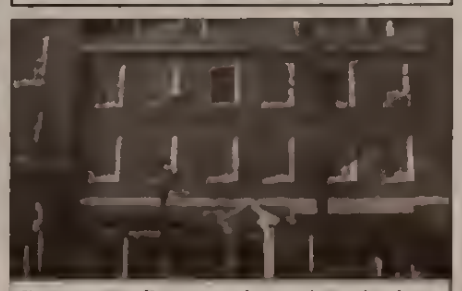

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Featured Properties

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Lawrence Twp. **$1,349,000**

New construction. Almost complete. 5 BR, 5.5 BA, au pair, finished walkout lower level, elevator, 2 fireplaces, & Princeton mailing address. 5,455 sqft.

Call 924-1600 **Marketed by Roberta Parker**

Dir.: Rosedale Rd to Mya Dr to end to Rt on Benedek to end, Lt on Belleview to #6.

Hopewell Twp. **$1,625,000**

Stunning 7 bedroom, 7 bath home on 2 acres with numerous amenities and the finest materials.

Call 924-1600 **Marketed by Nancy Goldfuss**

Hopewell Twp. **$1,249,000**

Hopewell Hunt 5 BR, 3.5 bath, country club setting, pool, pond, finished walkout basement, decks/patios, 3.03 acres, 5,259 sqft. Princeton mailing.

Call 924-1600 **Marketed by Roberta Parker**

Montgomery Township **$1,149,000**

Cherry Valley Country Club. 4 BR, 3.5 BA charming custom home backs to 9th hole of Cherry Valley golf course. 2 car garage, full finished basement, 4,345 sqft.

Call 924-1600 **Marketed by Roberta Parker**

Princeton **$575,000**

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS! Boro semi with 4 BR, 2 bath. Excellent location; 3rd floor rooms with bath can be stunning MBR retreat.

Call 924-1600 **Marketed by Katharine Chenoweth**

Princeton **$1,589,000**

NEW home to be built. 5 BR, 4.5 BA, au-pair, finished lower level, gourmet kitchen, elevator, .64 acres. Close to downtown Princeton.

Call 924-1600 **Marketed by Roberta Parker**

Lawrence Township **$849,989**

5 BR/3.5 BA Kingsbrook cul-de-sac beauty backs to trees! Grand 2-story entry w/curved staircase/custom moldings. Huge deck w/spa & shower.

Call 924-1600 **Marketed by Maureen Provenzano**

Princeton **$2,375,000**

Tucked away on a private lush landscaped 1.5 acres. This "arts & crafts" 2 story home offers 6 BR, 5 full BA, pool and walking distance to town! LS#4896165

Call (609) 799-2022 **Marketed by: Ann Santos**

www.prufoxroach.com

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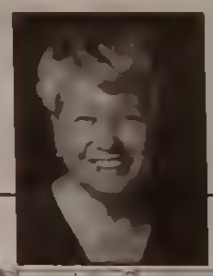

Listed by Robin Wallack • Direct dial 683-8505 or 924-1600 ext. 8505 • **robinwallack@prufoxroach.com**

Come on over! Come to our public open house and see for yourself how special this house really is. Five bedrooms, great baths, extraordinary Great Room, outstanding kitchen, cozy parlor with original stone and woodwork — a SUPER house in Princeton Township.
$1,175,000

Directions: Rt. 206 to Cherry Hill Rd. #374.

Built with care by its one and only owner, this ranch house is ready to go! Located in Princeton Township on a lovely lot, it provides a great alternative to a townhouse or condo. Brand new gas heat and central air conditioning, hardwood floors, and generous rooms make this house extremely attractive and a great value. This is a really cute and cozy house. **$395,000**

Directions: Jefferson Rd. to Mt. Lucas Rd. #262.

Talk about a home for all seasons! Walls of glass, extraordinary views, volume ceilings (many of wood!), imported Italian marble master bath; and this is just the beginning. Custom crafted woodwork and quality touches throughout make this Princeton home truly terrific!
$1,150,000

Directions: Rosedale Rd. to Fairway Dr. to Wendover Dr. #269.

Dramatic Lawrenceville contemporary in gorgeous setting; overlooks farm yet close to the Village and to Princeton. Two stone fireplaces, terrific kitchen with breakfast nook and much more. Large deck, wonderful family room adjacent to the kitchen, volume ceiling living room, formal dining room and a great finished basement. **$745,000**

Pretty in Princeton, this colonial is pretty special. The conservatory addition provides just the right touch, and the master bedroom addition has a second fireplace, volume ceiling and huge closet. Hardwood floors in most every room and a finished basement. The formal living room and dining room enable you to entertain in style; and the lovely lot has mature trees and beautiful plantings which you can enjoy from the large deck. **$949,000**

Better than ever with many new windows, doors and more. Jefferson Road offers Princeton at its most convenient, and this duplex adds charm to the mix. Finished third floor makes this house roomy and versatile. **$535,000**

Directions: Wiggins St. to Jefferson Rd. #90.

Throw your cares away! Located in the "sweet spot" of Princeton's Constitution Hill, the cathedral ceiling living room has a lovely fireplace and sliders which open to an elegant bluestone patio. Eat-in kitchen, dining room, two very large bedrooms and a huge loft/study. Also nooks, crannies and a tremendous amount of closet storage space make this a particularly elegant offering. **$745,000**

Directions: Elm Rd. to Constitution Hill East #16.

Who says there are no values in real estate today? Twin Rivers, one of New Jersey's first planned unit developments, provides easy living (this townhouse is ready to go!) and proximity to so much. Three bedrooms, 2 ½ baths, finished basement, living room, dining room and den. Lovely location within this East Windsor community. **$259,000**

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Unbelievable Price for Princeton!

Princeton — Buy this home and live in one of the most desirable areas of Princeton close to town yet on a secluded street near Carnegie Lake. This home features Living Room with fireplace; Dining Room with large window, corner cabinet and built-ins; lower level Family Room, Office/Den and Full Bath. The upper level features Four Bedrooms and Two Baths. The home has hardwood floors throughout most of the living space and an enclosed Porch. **Asking $559,900**

Gloria Nilson
GMAC Real Estate

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A Woodland Fancy... set on 1.2 acres just minutes from downtown Princeton... this spacious one story home has an intriguingly versatile floor plan. A paneled living room with fireplace, dining room, kitchen, inviting study lined with bookshelves, a large master bedroom with bathroom en-suite. 2 more bedrooms and one full bath. A separate entrance leads to a large bonus room and kitchen. The family room on the lower level and an oversized garage makes this an exceptional offering.

Marketed by Margaret "Maggie" Hill **$629,000**

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Princeton — Above the trees & enjoying the views, is this truly remarkable home which was designed by Maximillian Hayden & built by Lewis Barber. Inspired by villas of old, & every amenity of the new, nothing was overlooked.

Marketed by Jane H. Kenyon **$4,250,000**

Princeton — A fabulous new house on 1.43 acres. Formal living room, dining room, library, family room with fireplace, kitchen with breakfast room and laundry room. 4 bedrooms, 4 full & 2 half baths, circular staircase, 3 car garage and full finished basement. Location, Location, Location!!

Marketed by Violetta Adamiduu **$2,250,000**

Princeton — 5 Bedroom, 5 full & 2 half Bath single family home. Granite floor foyer. Kitchen with 2 stainless steel Bosch dishwashers, Sub-Zero refrigerator, 6-burner Gaggenau stove top & Thermador double oven with Corian counters. The remaining floors are hardwood.

Marketed by Diane Urbanek **$1,875,000**

Princeton — 5 bedroom, 4+ bath splendid country home in Pondview offers stunning design and extraordinary quality. Spectacular 2-story foyer and formal living room with fireplace. Spacious dining room and library. First floor master bedroom suite with lavish bath and French doors leading to private deck. Chef's kitchen.

Marketed by Eleanor "Peggy" Hughes-Fulmer **$1,795,000**

Princeton — Charming 4 Bedroom, 2.5 Bath brick Cape on approximately .5 acre. Hardwood floors, updated kitchen & baths. New heating & electrical systems. Belgian block walks & long gravel driveway. New landscaping.

Marketed by Susan "Suzy" DiMeglio **$849,000**

Montgomery — 5 Bedroom, 3 Bath Colonial on a 4.68 acre lot surrounded by preserved land. Custom features include 4 fireplaces, hardwood floors on 1st floor, kitchen with granite counters, beautiful deck and pool.

Marketed by Cheryl Stites **$739,000**

Princeton — 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath Dutch Colonial on over an acre. New Kitchen with stainless appliances, double sink, granite counters, tumble marble floors, Living room with fireplace, updated powder room. Walk-out basement, 2 car garage.

Marketed by Susan "Suzy" DiMeglio **$599,000**

Hopewell — Unique expanded Cape on almost an acre, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, two story family room with stone fireplace, kitchen with eating area, master suite with sitting room & luxurious bath, two tiered paver patio, hardwood floors.

Marketed by Michelle Needham **$529,000**

West Windsor — An Elegant Choice! Bright and spacious end unit townhome in West Windsor Township's Princeton Greens includes 3 bedrooms, 2 full and 2 half bathrooms, hardwood floors, finished basement, 2 car garage and deck. Convenient to University, stores, Rt. 1 and train station. An Excellent Choice!

Marketed by Rolette Lister **$521,000**

Hopewell — Large 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath Madison model in Wellington Manor adult 55+. 2-story foyer, hardwood floors, Kitchen with granite countertop, under-counter lights, top-line refrigerator, pantry, extra built-in cabinets & breakfast area. Den could be formal living room. Backs to woods.

Marketed by Anna Sinnis **$465,000**

Montgomery — Pike Run Greens 3 Bedroom, 2.5 Bath Townhome in move-in condition. Large Eat-in Kitchen, full basement, 1-car garage, upgraded carpeting & gas fireplace. Family room with outside entrance leading to deck. Private driveway/walkway.

Marketed by Rosellen Cutter **$409,900**

West Windsor — Second floor Belvedere model in desirable Canal Pointe. Two bedrooms, 2 full baths, living room with fireplace. Neutral tones throughout. Convenient location to walking paths, shopping, restaurants, & downtown Princeton. Community pool & tennis.

Marketed by Donna Matheis **$252,000**

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BUILDER'S MODEL

FRANKLIN TWP. — This Builder's Model home has over $38,098 in upgrades and is selling at a reduced base price. A lovely location backing to preserved woodlands augments this special home which will satisfy the savviest buyer. Close to NYC bus-line, shopping, schools and recreation, including the D&R Canal walk. Princeton address without the Princeton prices!!!

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Please call Princeton Office: (609) 921-2700 **$650,000**

YOUR SEARCH HAS ENDED!

LAWRENCE — Follow the paver walkway to this meticulously cared for Colonial. Wonderful features include: Kitchen w/natural cherry cabinets & w/Corian counters. Gleaming hardwood floor & a fireplace complete the comfortable family room. The formal living room & dining room are light filled. Upstairs are 4 generously sized bedrooms. The bathrooms have exquisite porcelain tile, cherry cabinets & storage.

Please Call Princeton Office: (609) 921-2700 **$495,000**

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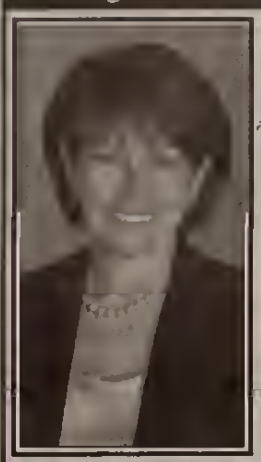

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Princeton Township: Set on a quiet cul-de-sac neighborhood, this beautiful Salzman colonial boasts high ceilings in the formal living/dining room with wood-burning fireplace, a wood paneled study with built-ins and an enlarged open kitchen/family room. Loads of windows offer great views of the landscaped property and magnificent outdoor oversized 10 foot Gunite pool with diving board. A balcony and adjoining expansive deck provide one of many accesses to the pool. With five generous bedrooms, three full and two half bathrooms, a huge walk-up attic that can be finished into a master suite if desired, as well as a bonus room offering additional family space, this home is impressive. Gleaming hardwood floors throughout. The home sits on 1.82 acres, minutes from town.

$1,395,000 *Marketed by Beatrice Bloom*

Princeton Township: Beautiful contemporary ranch provides a 1½-floor house, or one-floor living on the upper level, an apt on the lower level. Located in the tranquil Riverside section of Princeton, it is within walking/biking distance to the NY bus, Princeton University, and Riverside School. Upon entering the home you feel the positive effects of Feng Shui, with vaulted ceilings, round doorway, glass blocks and energy efficient windows. Beautiful hardwood floors. The spacious kitchen has maple cabinets, granite island, and high-end appliances. Extra large eat-in area/great area has vaulted ceiling, skylights and ceiling fan. The dining room looks into an indoor pond. The bridge room with wet bar/ instant hot water and wall-to-wall windows adds to the chi and fabulous space for entertaining. Newer roof, water heater, furnace are added bonuses. A separate 2 bedroom apt could be used as study, in-law or au-pair suite, or income-producing apartment. A unique and exceptionally well-maintained home in a great neighborhood. A Must See!!

$949,000 *Marketed by Terri Dunfee & Ingela Kostenbader*

Princeton Township: A superb renovation of a California mid-century raised ranch in a picturesque setting was just completed in February 2007. Virtually the entire house is new. From top of the line Gagganeau kitchen appliances, Henribuilt Soffo kitchen cabinets, Waterworks bathrooms, limestone and bamboo floors, to views of 18 preserved acres from almost every window, it is a very unique find in today's market. Other special details include state of the art audio visual wiring with indoor/outdoor speakers, a built-in iPod doc and plasma TV's. It also includes two fireplaces, a heated indoor Sylvan swimming pool/jacuzzi and an outdoor handball court. Professionally Feng Shuied in March 2007. Quality abounds in this vacation-like setting so close to the hustle bustle of all Princeton has to offer! Possible expansion opportunity. This home cannot be seen from the road. One owner is a licensed NJ Realtor.

$899,000

Princeton Township: This is why you want to live in Princeton! Walk to town from the front porch of your 9 year young Barsky built 4 bedroom custom colonial on one of Princeton's most desirable streets. With hardwood floors throughout the main level, high ceilings, granite counters and 42" cabinets in the kitchen, floor to ceiling windows, a huge screened-in back deck with skylights, a beautifully "unfinished" full basement, and all the finishing touches like crown molding, master bath with whirlpool tub and a family room fireplace...what more could you want?

$859,000 *Marketed by Dena Paolucci*

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$725,000 *Marketed by Ingela Kostenbader*

Princeton Borough: Beautiful Boro duplex! This home offers hardwood floors throughout, high ceilings and a large, finished attic perfect for playroom or office. A nicely landscaped patio and proximity to all Princeton has to offer complete the package. Come and see!!

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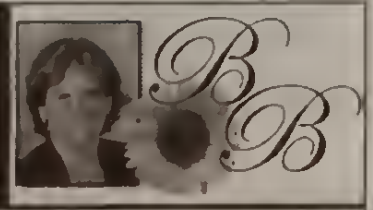

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A good listing presentation takes careful planning. A written comparative market analysis will help you get a clear idea of local market conditions. Many REALTORS® will include a marketing plan, as well as suggestions on how to make your home show well and how to make it accessible to agents. If you are talking to several companies, resist the temptation to just go with the person who quotes you the highest price for your house. Look for an agent who is experienced, well prepared, and professional. Successful transactions involve carefully planned collaboration between the sellers and the REALTOR®.

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New Listing

Green & Elegant

A celebration of innovative green building is coming to one of Princeton Township's favorite residential neighborhoods in the form of new from-the-ground-up construction. This home built by Jeff Moser, a member of United States Green Building Council, will incorporate today's expectations for luxurious and comfortable living with sustainable and energy efficient construction – and all within close proximity to schools and the heart of town. Finely crafted finishes such as crown molding and marble fireplaces will detail the 5-bedroom floor plan and Lyptus wood cabinetry and flooring, highly efficient.windows, R-13/R-30 insulation and all energy-star appliances will serve as the background This gem of a property is close to schools and just a few blocks to the heart of town.

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YOUR HEALTH

Latest Trends in Overall Health

Mind and Body

It seems that every other week there's another groundbreaking study released on the effects of certain foods, a changing diet, and the long-term impact of exercise. And while some tend to be specific, and although drinking diet soda with infused vitamins might not get you on the front of a box of Wheaties, one fact remains consistent: moderation is the key.

But does moderation refer only to diet? How about moderate amounts of exercise? Moreover, how does sound mental health factor in to the equation?

The U.S. Health Department's 2005 study, The *Dietary Guidelines for Americans*, breaks things down fairly simply: adequate nutrients and caloric needs; weight management; physical activity; a look at preferable food groups followed by chapters on fats, sodium, potassium, carbohydrates, and alcohol, to name a few.

"Combined with physical activity," the report's summary says, "following a diet that does not provide excess calories according to the recommendations in this document should enhance the health of most individuals."

This is certainly not surprising to those in the beginner's stage of health and fitness, but it does represent a rudimentary foundation. Health experts, physical trainers, and therapists have expanded exponentially on this notion, making health not just about the five-minute mile or a six-pack of abs, but about a fuller lifestyle, replete with the physical benefits, including sound mental fitness.

In the greater Princeton community, more and more health specialists are beginning to embrace the holistic concept of fitness, recognizing that while someone might belong to a gym, and eat all the right things at home, not all health goals are necessarily being addressed.

A self-proclaimed "wellness engineer" who is a

(Continued Inside)

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(Continued from page 1)

You Don't Need to Climb Olympus, Ju

computer engineer by trade with a strong interest in physical fitness, Rick Weiss first came to New Jersey to work for Bell Labs, but now heads up Vicar Technologies (www.viocare.com), a company that assesses, monitors, and offers personalized feedback for a patient's physical and dietary habits.

"Basically, I use computers and other technology and apply it to health," Mr. Weiss said from his offices in downtown Princeton. Inspired by a 2002 Princeton Regional Health Department initiative, "Lighten Up Princeton," Mr. Weiss created a tool, the Living Well navigator, and created the Princeton Living Well (PLW) website (www.princetonlivingwell.com), which "helps people congregate online to do things together offline." In short, it brings physical fitness "into the public square," Mr. Weiss said.

Benefiting from a $500,000, two-year grant from the National Institute of Health and now in its third year, Princeton Living Well focuses both on the diet, and the local business concept. The initiative offers a rewards program that measures personal fitness success, racking up "points" that can be redeemed at participating businesses, like the Whole Earth Center, the Witherspoon Bread Company, and Kopps Cycles, among others.

Lifestyle Project

A self-styled "health lifestyle project," PLW specifically looks to promote diabetes prevention, weight control, and general wellness through a community-wide network. Being a pilot program, it could also generate similar networks in other communities, Mr. Weiss said, emphasizing that a community's mind-set toward fitness can impact even individuals with couch-potato tendencies.

Mind-set, or mental state, is important in other areas stressing physical fitness, but incorporating it into one's daily routine is essential, according to Praia Lynne McKinnon of the non-profit Integral Yoga Institute Princeton In Monmouth Junction (www.iyiprinceton.com), who also gives workshops to area teachers about the benefits of yoga and yoga techniques in the classroom.

"There's so much pressure in our daily lives, and with teachers in particular, I try to get them to take five minutes a day, give instruction to their students," she explained, adding that brief lessons on straight posture and stretching can make a difference in an otherwise sluggish day. Three-part breathing: slow, deep yogic breathing, where a subject gets a full inhalation, can also produce surprising dividends, Ms. McKinnon said. "If you get the belly to relax, fill the lungs up all the way, exhale the lungs all the way, it really changes everything in the classroom.

Stay on Task

"The students can be more focused and, from what I've seen, are more able to stay on task," she said. "When things are starting to get wild, the students are able to bring it back – it just takes a few minutes. You feel refreshed, awake, your mind is clear, and you're youthful."

You won't get too much nutrition information from a yoga class, but Ms. McKinnon emphasized foods that have high levels of *prana*, or energy (in acupuncture circles, it's called *chi*). Basically, processed foods, prepackaged foods, alcohol, foods with high sugar, all have very low *prana*. "If you eat those foods, you will also have a low energy level," Ms. McKinnon said, pointing to whole foods. "Rather than eating applesauce, eat the real apple. If you're eating rice, eat brown rice."

The Integral Yoga Institute assembles all yogic aspects into one class, including deep relaxation, meditation, and posture training. More often than not, the best-case scenario has her students feeling pretty good, Ms. McKinnon said: "Their eyes are wide and people say 'I can't believe how good I feel.'"

Integrated Wellness

While a willing pupil is important, what happens when you seem to do the right things, eat right, exercise, etc., and yet nothing happens? "I've seen people in the fitness club who seem willing to do the work, but somehow, they never seem to change, lose weight, better their diabetes," said Gerald Novack, director of Advantage Integrated Wellness at 194 N. Harrison Street. "Oftentimes, there's something lacking in the equation, and there's an emotional resistance to change.

"It's no secret that change is difficult to a lot of peo-

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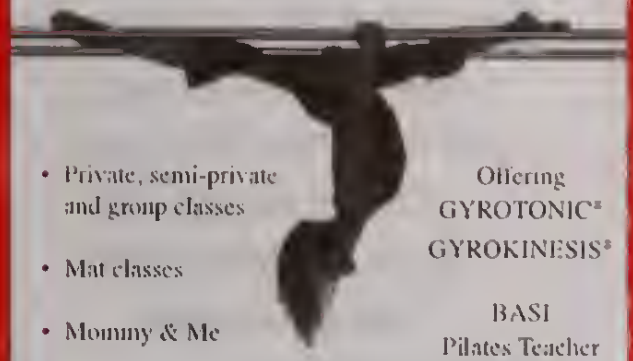

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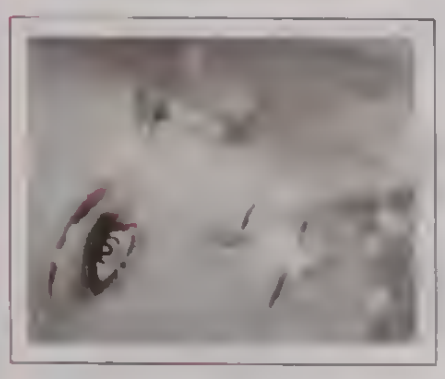

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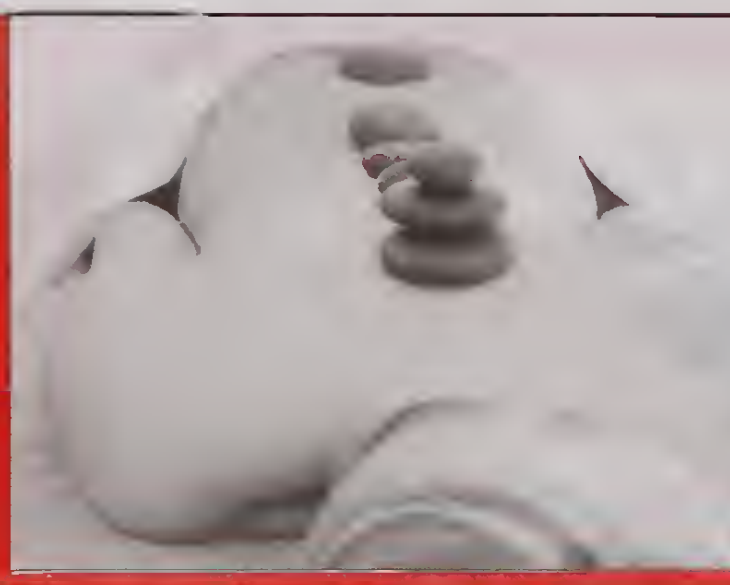

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ple, and we need to work through that," said Mr. Novack, who is also a sports fitness specialist, a certified personal trainer, and practices Gestalt therapy, a form of experiential psychotherapy. Mr. Novack's firm offers counseling and therapy, nutritional consultation, and personal training through the New York Sports Clubs at the Princeton Shopping Center.

Correcting muscle imbalance and posture are key, Mr. Novack said, as well as the creation of what he terms a "wellness foundation" in dietary regimen. But there is also the task of keeping the emotional system in a healthy state and managing emotions to keep physiological stress under control.

Soul searching is part of the process as well. Mr. Novack said he looks for key character features, or indicators, that might offer an indication on how people can improve themselves. "I start with people opening up. Some might be just afraid of the gym, but others may have real issues that need to be uncovered.

"We try to go to an area of life where they're most ready to make change," he said.

Inspired For Fitness

Making a change is not only a theme in the 2008 presidential campaign, but in lifestyle as well, and there are plenty of ways at home to adjust the physical lifestyle, said Stuart Polevoy, owner of CAN DO Fitness Clubs (www.candofitness.com), which opened its fourth location at Princeton Forrestal Village in July 2007. Not really a typical gym, according to Mr. Polevoy, his "lifestyle center" is laid out to be "inspiring" for fitness.

Mr. Polevoy has ostensibly created a 71,000-square-foot wellness world over at Forrestal, complete with a spa and salon, free weights, a pro shop, and a conference center, and a martial arts school. "The experience that we try to create is one so that people want to come, and they don't have to work out – they can take a steam or a shower."

But the perks are not the only elements that offer the incentive to embark on a comprehensive fitness regimen. Mr. Polevoy and his club worked with the South Brunswick High School football and soccer teams last season, and he said he planned on increasing community outreach foward integrating a fitness plan into residents' everyday lives.

"What motivates people to run five miles a day? Or how about having a balanced diet? We have to assess people's needs and then figure out how to get them to realize those objectives," Mr. Polevoy said. "There's so much to the fitness component that it's not just about working out or eating right; you want your workout program to be as efficient as possible." CAN DO does offer "fun" incentives, like a belly dancing class and a "striptease" class (fully clothed, of course), and a variety of dance techniques that can attract people who might not otherwise be compelled to participate in fitness classes.

Feeling "Taller"

Sheri Nyce, founder of Nyce Bodies Pilates (www.nycebodies.com) agreed that the incentive needs to be there in order to get the most out of her clients. "People can get addicted to Pilates because if your body's alive, everything's going to be working better and when you feel better, the more you want to feel good."

Basically a movement technique that uses the body's core and focuses on deeper postural muscles, Pilates, when done right, Ms. Nyce said, can give someone more energy, make them feel more grounded, and even feel "taller."

"The first time you do it, you feel like you've been hit by a truck," she quipped, "but after that, it's fantastic." A dancer by trade who has been teaching Pilates for 20 years, Ms. Nyce said that she discovered the technique in an attempt to find a way to increase her strength as an athlete. Like other personalized health instructors, new clients will outline their goals initially, and come back to those goals through constant communication, Ms. Nyce said. "It's not my body, so I need open communication with my clients to make sure that they are meeting their goals and that I'm helping them meet those goals."

The overall result is a state that almost transcends physical fitness, Ms. Nyce said: "What I want for my clients is what this does for me. I just feel like a different person, and I would never give this up. It's my base and it enables me to do anything I want."

—Matthew Hersh

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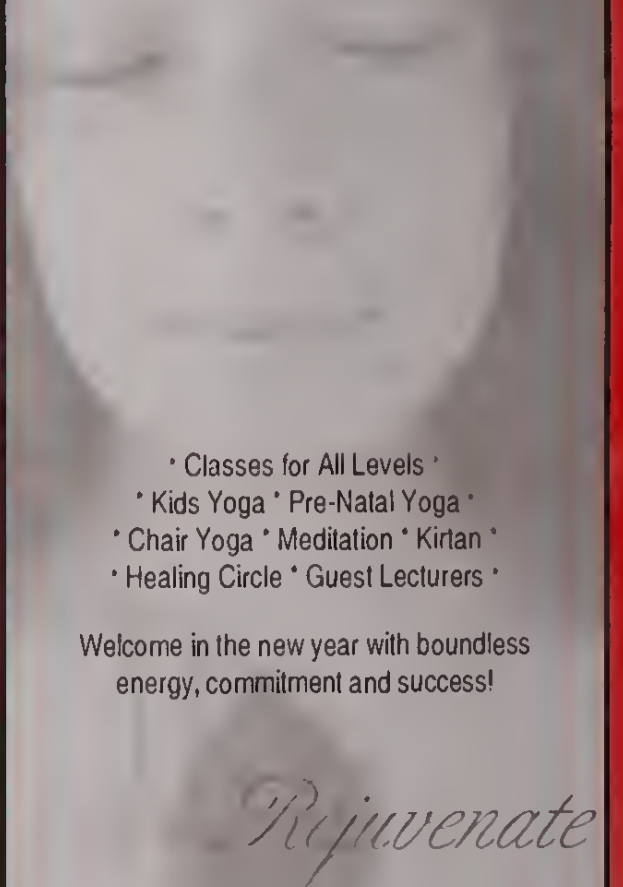

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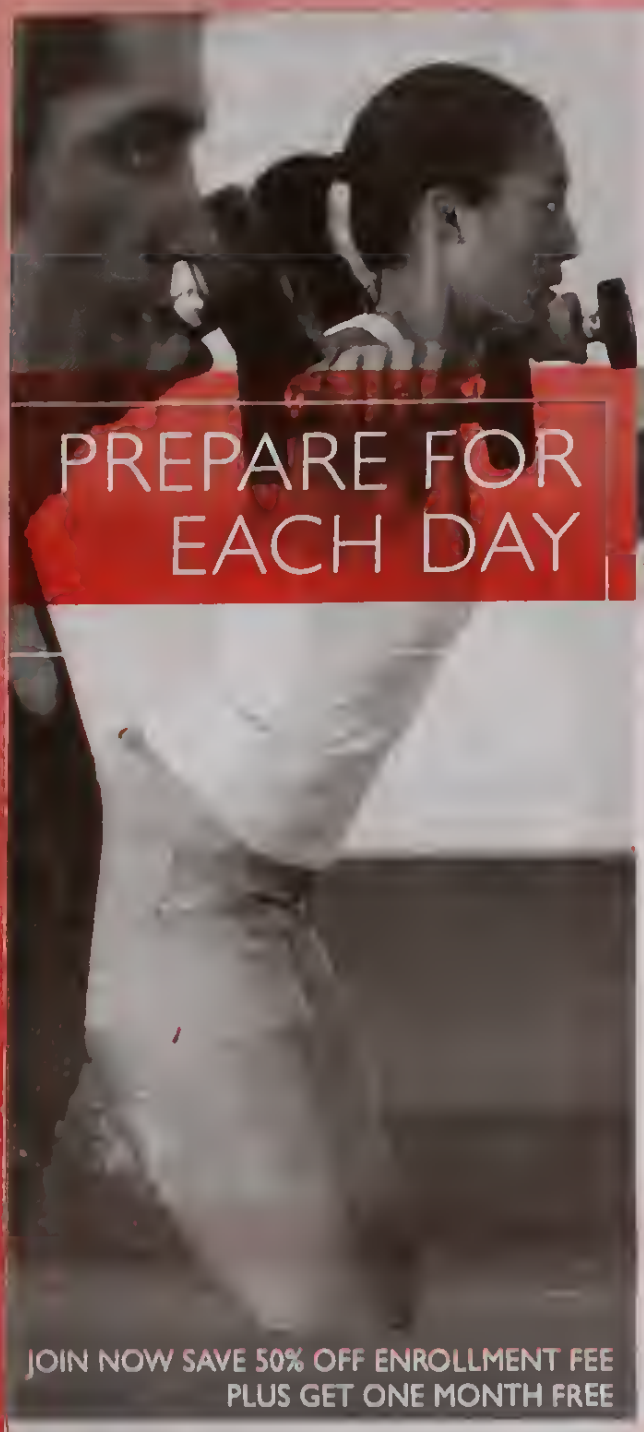

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